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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

1909-1913.

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BATH AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society.

REPORT, 1913.

AS so many candidates—19—were waiting election at the end of last year, the Committee decided to increase the limit from 150 to 170. In the early days of this Branch Society it was sometimes difficult to obtain adequate conveyances at outlying places, but with the advent of motor char-a-bancs any place within the district, or even within a reasonable distance outside it, is accessible. Commencing the year with 149 Members, there have been 13 resignations, 1 death, and 35 elections, the year closing with the full complement—170. A few candidates are waiting admission in 1914.

The account of the Annual Meeting, Lord Hylton (President) in the chair, will follow this Report.

Six excursions have been held this year; all have been of interest and most successful. The Committee feel sure they are voicing the feelings of all the Members, especially those who joined the excursions, in heartily thanking Mr. Gerald Grey for the excellent arrangements made throughout and for the smooth manner in which they were carried out. It may not occur to many Members what an amount of time and correspondence is entailed in the preliminary arrangements, as well as tact and energy in carrying them through.

With the Proceedings for 1908 was published the contents of that and the previous four years, the five years forming a convenient size for a volume—Volume I. This plan has been again adopted, the contents of 1909-1913, issued with these Proceedings, forming Volume II. Any Member desiring to have back numbers to complete either volume (1904 is out of print) can obtain them by applying to the Hon. Secretary ; price 1s. 6d. each.

Mr. Thos. S. Bush having resigned the Hon. Local Secretaryship for Bath of the Somersetshire Archæological Society, which he has held for eleven years, Mr. George Norman was approached and agreed to fill the vacancy. His nomination was forwarded to the Council of that Society and accepted. In accordance with a new rule of the Parent Society allowing all Branches to send a representative to serve on their Council, Mr. Thos. S. Bush was elected by your Committee to represent this Branch, the result of these two elections being that two Members of this Branch have the privilege of attending meetings of the Council.

Photographs to illustrate the excursions have been kindly supplied by Miss Rodman (a selection having been made from a number taken by her), by Miss Longworth-Dames and Mr. Gerald Grey.

At the end of these Proceedings are sundry Notes :—

Rev. H. H. Winwood on Well Sinking (Geological illustrations).

Mr. St. David Kemeys-Tynte on Rare Birds in Somerset.

Rev. Prebendary Boyd, Old Flight of Steps, Bath Abbey.

Mr. F. D. Wardle, Vase found in the River Avon (illustrated by a photograph by Mr. A. H. Hopkins).

Mr. A. J. Taylor on Discoveries near St. Michael's Church.

Mr. Thos. S. Bush, Roman or Mediæval Road, Claverton Street.

Mr. Thos. S. Bush on Explorations on Lansdown, illustrated by photographs by Mr. Gerald Grey and Messrs. Middleton Ashman & Co., and a Plan showing the Excavations.

Mr. Thos. S. Bush, Summary of Explorations on Lansdown, 1905-12, with Plan.

The Committee have to thank the Hon. Treasurer for his careful attention to the accounts, which it will be seen are in a satisfactory condition. Mr. Robert Isgar has again kindly audited them. With his approval £50 has been placed on deposit with Stuckey's Branch (Bath) of Messrs. Parr's Bank.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Literary Institution on Thursday, March 13th, at 4 o'clock. Present: Lord Hylton, in the chair; Rev. H. H. Winwood, Rev. W. E. Blathwayt, Colonel Clayton, Colonel Kirkwood, Colonel Leigh, Colonel Irwin, Colonel Nash, Colonel Rolleston, Colonel Light, Dr. Jervis, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, Mr. H. Parry, Mr. Goldie, Mr. Isgar, Mr. M. H. Scott, Mr. Tyte, Mr. Norman, Mr. R. C. Bush, Mr. Hodges, Mr. F. Shum, Mr. Monnington, Miss Russell, Miss Newham, Mrs. Grey, Mrs. Pryor, Miss Gervis, Miss M. Blathwayt, Miss Rodman, Miss Norman, Mrs. Colomb, Miss L. M. Salmon, Miss E. E. Salmon; Mr. Gerald Grey, Hon. Excursion Secretary; and Mr. Thos. S. Bush, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The resignation of the Rev. Prebendary Bothamley as one of the Vice-Presidents, owing to bad health, was notified. At the suggestion of Lord Hylton it was decided unanimously that the Secretary should write to him expressing regret at his resignation and at the cause of his so doing.

The Secretary said he had received letters of regret that they were unable to attend from Earl Waldegrave, Mr. C. T. Foxcroft, Rev. R. Reade, Mr. Todd, Miss Casey and Miss Beavan.

The President, in moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts, which were taken as read, having been printed and issued with the Proceedings), expressed satisfaction at the continued prosperity of the Branch as shown by the number of Members, and said the Proceedings of the past year made a valuable volume, not only as a record of excursions and other interesting matter, but also because the illustrations were specially good.

This was seconded by Mr. F. Shum and carried.

The Rev. H. H. Winwood proposed the re-election of Lord Hylton as President. His Lordship had, he remarked, just presided over a meeting representing the Literary and Scientific character of Bath, and now he was exhibiting an interest in its Archæological side. They were extremely gratified that he should do so, and that he had consented to be their President for the ensuing year.

Mr. Robert C. Bush seconded, and the motion was carried by acclamation.

Lord Hylton, having thanked the Members for again electing him, said that as his time was not now so fully taken up with politics he would have more leisure to give to literature, science, and kindred subjects. He could assure them that he looked forward to deriving a considerable amount of pleasure in following the operations of this Archæological Society, a subject that he was greatly interested in, and therefore it was very gratifying to him to find their Society willing to elect him as President.

Colonel Clayton proposed, and Mr. Isgar seconded, the election of Earl Waldegrave, Lord Strachie, and Mr. Charles T. Foxcroft as Vice-Presidents. This was carried, as were also the following resolutions :—

Mr. M. H. Scott proposed, and Mr. H. Parry seconded, the re-election of the Committee, viz. : The Rev. H. H.

Winwood, Colonel Clayton, Colonel Kirkwood, Colonel Leigh, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, Mr. Norman, Mr. F. Shum and Mr. Todd.

The Rev. F. H. Mules proposed, and Colonel Nash seconded, the re-election of Mr. Gerald Grey as Hon. Excursion Secretary.

Mr. Grey, having returned thanks for his election, said it was proposed to carry out the following excursions this season: Stanton Prior, Priston and Inglescombe, Lullington, Orchardleigh, Buckland Dinham and Norton St. Philip; Witham Friary and Stourhead; Warminster, Stonehenge, Market Lavington and Urchfont; East and West Harptree and Sutton Court.

Colonel Irwin proposed, and Mr. Kemeys-Tynte seconded, the re-election of Mr. Thos. S. Bush as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Bush, after returning thanks for the confidence again reposed in him, said he was glad the President had referred to the Proceedings. There was more matter in them than usual, and the illustrations were decidedly better, so naturally the cost was much greater, and therefore they must not expect such a good balance as last year. He then referred to explorations, saying that it was proposed to continue excavations in the same field as last year, but probably—owing to haymaking—the work would not be started before August. He concluded by moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Isgar for auditing the accounts. This was seconded by the President and carried.

With reference to a note on the agenda as to taking up Natural History practically, the Secretary said that in the first Report and in later ones the Committee had suggested that this subject should be taken up, but without result. A discussion then followed. Colonel Light stated that he should be pleased to render any assistance. The President expressed favourable views, and said that it was gratifying to know that Brean Down had been formed into a bird sanctuary. Other members took part in the discussion, but no definite resolution was passed.

Thanks to Lord Hylton for presiding closed the meeting.

:: EXCURSIONS. ::

Stanton Prior, Priston and Inglescombe.

The first excursion of the season took place on Wednesday afternoon, April 23rd, when Stanton Prior, Priston, and Inglescombe were visited. The weather was perfect, and a party of fifty made the journey in motor char-a-bancs, while several lady members went in their own motors.

On arrival at Stanton Prior the visitors were met by the Rector (the Rev. A. Grant Lane), who gave an interesting description of the church. It consists of a western tower, nave, chancel and north porch, which latter has every appearance from the thickness of the walls and other particulars of formerly being the lower story of an early tower. The porch is entered by an unreserved pointed arch springing from a square impost Norman Transition in style. During the restoration some black letter incised inscriptions were discovered, and in the eastern wall was also found a recess with a stone slab, on which were similar inscriptions. This recess was evidently built to receive a bread dole, possibly the weekly gift of the former Priors of Bath. Walled into the recess was an early benitia or stoup; this has been removed to the west wall. The doorway is plain, but above is a simple Perpendicular tabernacle, on which were found remnants of the original painting and which formerly enclosed a figure, probably the patron saint, St. Lawrence. The door and tabernacle were somewhat singularly surmounted by a pointed arch comprising almost the whole wall. Within the eastern jamb of the door was discovered another holy water stoup, which has been retained. The architectural features of the interior were a Perpendicular nave, lighted by square-headed windows on the south side and a good Perpendicular tabernacle in the centre. The chancel, of far less elevation than the nave, was divided from it by an opening in the wall of no particular form with the remnants of what appeared to be the mullions of a screen. Four very small windows lighted the chancel with a very poor late decorated east window. The font is octagonal upon an earlier base. The restorations are an entire re-casing of the whole of the walls with the local lias stone with bands of freestone, the erection of a new Norman Transition chancel arch, three-light Early English east windows, and the

restoration of the other windows of the chancel as well as those of the nave. In removing the wall-work of the nave it was discovered that the walls were originally of the same height as the chancel, and upon removing the chancel opening it was clear that the walls were plastered behind that work; it appears that the church had formerly no distinct marking of chancel, nave, etc. Might it not, therefore, have been the mere conventual church of the Priory rather than the parish church? In Perpendicular times the whole of the present windows of the nave were inserted, the walls raised, and the open timber roof, now thrown open, erected. In the roof are two shields, one the arms of the Bath Abbey, the other those of Hungerford, and gives the date of the roof; this family formerly possessed this manor with that of Newton St. Loe adjoining. In removing the western wall of the chancel to enable the erection of the chancel arch no trace of an original arch was discovered, or any except a few fragments of the Perpendicular screen, which has been preserved; but resting on this wall were the fillings of the panels of the roof, which from their decoration originally surmounted the rood. Ther could, therefore, have originally been no chancel arch, although there must have been some work to fill the shinglings to be substituted by more permanent work, which from circumstances was never commenced. In restoring this chancel the jamb of one window was found to be the portion of a column; and in that of another, a very small lancet, was found an Early Norman or possibly rude form of the attic base out of which the head had been cut; this fragment has been preserved with much care *in situ*. Another very interesting fragment, a Norman piscina found elsewhere, has been inserted in its proper place in the chancel. One or two other bits of architectural character have been found and preserved. A piece, possibly the base of a tabernacle, and two Perpendicular corbels, evidently domestic work, possibly from the Prior's hall, remains of two very good ledger-tombs, with incised crosses, were found, and are now built in the north wall of the chancel. The church has been restored without attempt at display or extravagance, and is in good keeping with the simplicity of the original edifice and the requirements of the proper celebration of our services. A simple stone pulpit is in the nave, of similar character, with an oak lectern. The seats are open and the font is raised upon steps at the entrance. Referring to a scratch dial which was on the church wall the Rector said that the Rev. Ethelbert Horne, of Downside Abbey (a noted authority on "Scratch Dials"), who is a member of the Bath Branch of the Society, had stated that the one on Stanton Prior church was one of the best in Somerset.

At Priston the Rev. T. de L. Sprye welcomed the visitors, and gave a very interesting account of the church. The church was a very old one. There was little doubt that the door, which he thought was the one thing they were most proud of in the parish, was a genuine old door of the Norman church. They had a picture of it taken in the 15th century, and it was then very much as it was to-day. The nave was rebuilt in 1859 under the direction of Mr. C. E. Davis, of Bath, by whom the handsomely ornamented Norman arches beneath the tower were inserted, according to the guidance afforded by a few fragments of the original bold and massive mouldings which were found walled up in the nave. The arches previous to this restoration were of the date of the tower. The Norman windows under the tower are also remarkable for their fidelity to antiquity. The west window is a three-light Perpendicular window, and there are also two small windows high up on the north side. On the exterior the gable of the nave is surmounted by an old gargoyle used as a finial. The parapet on the south side is supported by Norman corbels under the leads. The chancel was restored in 1869 by the advice of Sir G. G. Scott. With the exception of the roof it is a beautiful specimen of the best style of geometrical decorated. The east window is much admired, and furnished the model for that inserted in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Newton St. Loe. It is in three lights, the hood moulding being enriched with foil work supported by small columns. On the south side, between the two windows, which are each of two lights and match the east window, is an ogee-headed priest's door. In the two-light window to the north the lights themselves are not foiled, and it is evidently a later copy of the other windows. On the south are also the remains of a decorated piscina which was originally surmounted by an ogee canopy. Another feature of Priston Church was the font. It was a genuine old font, and there was no doubt it was presented to the church by the family of the Longs, of Wiltshire. It contained many devices. On each of the faces is a shield. On one of these is the letter W, and on another the four letters of the word Long are arranged. On the other shields are the arms of the monastery of Bath—the keys and the sword crossed, the badge of the Longs—the fetterlock, and several coats, including the lion rampant and the ten crosses *paté*. The church at one time belonged to the Abbots of Bath and was given to them by King Athelstan. At the west end of the church was a lion, a genuine piece of old Norman work. In the churchyard were some famous trees, including a chestnut, which was undoubtedly one of the old forest trees, and a very fine yew.

Inglescombe Church.

Photos Mr. G. J. Grey.

Head of Our Saviour (?), Inglescombe Church.

The Rev. F. H. Mules proposed a vote of thanks to the Revs. Lane and Sprye for their kindness in receiving the members.

The journey was then resumed, and at Inglescombe the party were received by the Rev. G. H. Lawrence. In the church Mr. Lawrence gave some interesting facts connected with its history. The parish itself was very ancient. The church was built by the Monks of Bath. The north door, which was now closed, was commonly called a "Corpse door," the idea being to bring a corpse at a funeral in at one door and take it out at another. The central tower, which was built as some thought after the model of Bath Abbey, contained some good Norman work. The chancel was not entirely original, but it contained a fine Early English piscina and a Bambino, or the swaddled Baby Christ, of which he (the Vicar) believed there was only one other in England. The chapel was supposed to be a Chantry chapel for the de Gournays ; it contained a very fine window. There was evidently an altar tomb there, for behind the organ there were the remains of a piscina. On the north side they would see a beautiful head of Christ ; it was found a few months ago amongst the lumber of the church. The dedication of the church was unknown. It had been suggested it was dedicated to St. Peter, but there was very little foundation for that. Others thought that the church was dedicated to Christ Himself. They had five bells in the tower, but he was sorry to say they were in a very bad condition and could not be rung, as the framework was entirely unsafe. Two of the bells were pre-Reformation bells of the 13th century ; one contained a prayer to Christ and the other to the Virgin Mary. The clerestory window over the chapel contained some fine pieces of 13th century glass. The following subjects were among the fragments:—Part of figure, apparently St. Mark, with pastoral staff, an open book or Gospel, and with the right hand raised in benediction ; part of a winged lion, the emblem of St. Mark; part of a winged bull, the emblem of St. Luke; and a portion of a priest's stole.

Mr. Lawrence then conducted the visitors over the Tithe Barn and pointed out the remains of the Wansdyke.

After tea, which was served in the open air at Mrs. Chave's gardens, a visit was paid to the Castle site, a short history of which was given by Mr. Lawrence, who again acted as guide.

[See former visit of the Bath Branch in the Proceedings, volume I., page 1, for detailed account of Inglescombe and the Gournay family.]

The Rev. F. H. Mules moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Lawrence, which was warmly accorded.—In responding, the Vicar spoke of the pleasure it gave him to welcome visitors to the parish and to show them over the church and places of interest.

The journey was then resumed, and Bath was reached about 6.30.

Buckland Dinham, Orchardleigh, Lullington and Norton St. Philip.

Over fifty members started by motor char-a-bancs from Laura Place on Monday, May 19, including two private motors. The weather was delightfully fine.

On arriving at Buckland Dinham the visitors were met by the Vicar (the Rev. J. D. S. Keilor), who conducted them round the church and read an interesting account of its history written for the Parent Society by Mr. Bligh Bond. The parish itself takes its name from the Dinham family, who resided there in a large Manor House which had long since been destroyed. The church was dedicated to St. Michael and All Angels. The roof of the nave had been raised and a clerestory put in, which was believed to be a modern imitation of 13th century work. There were Norman doors on the north and south of the nave, with segmental heads, and two of the original Norman windows still remained, round-headed inside, but square outside. The original outer arch of the south porch was Transitional Norman, and the chancel arch was of the same date. There was a beautiful Chantry chapel of Early English date (probably about 1230) on the south side of the nave, with some fine detail in the windows and some curious brackets on the inner face of the south wall ; one of which, he was told, was perforated on the top for holding tapers. On the north side of the nave was another larger chapel dating from about the time of Edward II., and containing some rather time-worn effigies, in the form of floor-slabs ; the figures, in slight relief, being supposed to represent Sir John Dinham and Joan, his wife, daughter of Sir Guy de Brian, K.G. Sir John was the founder of a Chantry in the church in the time of Edward II. Attached to the north side of the chancel was another chapel, but of the 15th century, containing some good windows and old stained glass. The porch was vaulted with a fan-traceried roof some time late in the 15th century, when a depressed Perpendicular arch was inserted inside the 12th century one at the entrance. There

was a founder's tomb in Early Decorated work in the north wall of the nave. The church contained a fine Jacobean oak pulpit and a beautiful old Queen Anne sanctuary chair. The latter was in the tower, which was of late Perpendicular work, and of similar design to that at Hemington; the two towers seemed to be the work of the same hand. One of the windows in the north-east chapel had very refined mouldings, and some very pretty stone panelling was to be seen there. About 1480 would be the date of the Perpendicular work in the church. The font was an interesting specimen of Norman work, with a circular bowl and two kinds of incised ornament on the round top. The Communion Table was of 17th century work.

The Rev. F. C. Bayliss proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Keilor for his interesting account of the beautiful church.

The journey was then resumed to Frome, where luncheon was partaken of at the George Hotel.

After lunch the motors proceeded through Orchardleigh Park (by kind permission of the Rev. W. A. Duckworth) to the remains of the Cromlech on Murtrey Hill.

Here Mr. Gerald Grey kindly gave some interesting particulars of these gigantic stones. It is believed that the Orchardleigh stones and surrounding earthwork are all that remain of the burial chambers and a monumental mound of large proportions dating from the Neolithic age. The Cromlech has for many years been an object of considerable interest and speculation to archæologists. The Parent Society visited it in 1875, and again in 1911, and upon each occasion the Rev. H. H. Winwood took part in discussing theories of the stones.

The gardens of Orchardleigh Park were next visited, and in the absence of the Rev. W. A. Duckworth, who was in Italy at that time, the members were met by Mr. F. Clark (the head gardener), who conducted them round the beautiful grounds. He also pointed out several fine young trees of the Sequoia Gigantea (Wellingtonia), grown from seed brought from the Yosemite Valley, California, in 1896, while later on he pointed out a tree of a similar species, 94 feet high, and planted in 1858, two years after the house was built. A magnificent Wisteria growing against the house was greatly admired, and a Taxonia, the ruddy woolly bark of which possesses the feature of giving out warmth, attracted much attention. The rock gardens and beds of tulips and many other features interested the visitors. The party then proceeded to the Island Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mr. Gerald Grey said

how sorry Mr. Duckworth was that he was unable to be present, and had he been at home he would have had pleasure in entertaining them. Mr. Grey then read some notes on the church compiled by the Rev. J. G. Marshall.

[See former visit of the Bath Branch in the Proceedings, volume III., pages 93-94, for detailed account of Orchardleigh Church.]

Mr. Kemeys-Tynte moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. W. A. Duckworth for allowing them to see the Park and gardens, and to Mr. Clark, the head gardener, for showing the party round. This was cordially received and acknowledged by Mr. Clark.

On leaving Orchardleigh the drive was resumed to Lullington, where, at the church, the Vicar (the Hon. and Rev. H. N. Waldegrave) read the following notes compiled by the Rev. J. G. Marshall:—

The church of All Saints', Lullington, is a small but most interesting building, consisting of a Norman nave with a central tower and a chancel of the Decorated period. There is also on the south side of the nave, west of the tower, a chantry chapel in the Early English style. From Domesday Book we learn that Lullington was one of the many manors in Somerset given by William I. to Geoffry, Bishop of Coutances; and that, while he let the other estates to various tenants, he kept that of Lullington and the adjoining one of Orchardleigh in his own hands. In the north wall of the nave there is a very beautiful and elaborate Norman doorway. On the capitals of the pillars of each side of this doorway are various emblems carved with great vigour. On the eastern side appear (1) Samson breaking the jaws of the lion; and (2) a peacock. Both these are symbols of the Resurrection of Our Lord—Christ breaking the jaws of death being the idea conveyed by the first, and the yearly renewal of the brilliancy of the peacock's plumage making the second appropriate. The first of these symbols is very rare, the only other instance of which I have heard being found in the Church of St. Pierre at Caen—the next diocese to Coutances. On the opposite side is the figure of a stag hunted by a centaur armed with a bow and arrow—representing the Christian soul attacked by the devil. While the idea of this symbol is common enough, the huntsman is generally represented as armed with a spear—but there is in the same church of St. Pierre at Caen a very similar carving in which he is represented with bow and arrow. It is certainly very remarkable that in these two churches so far apart, one so large and the other so small, there should be

side by side these two rare symbolic carvings. Surely if not executed by the same hand we may well imagine that both might be the work of the same guild of artists. This rich Norman doorway, which is in remarkable preservation, is also interesting in other ways. It has over it a niche containing a figure of Our Lord seated in glory. His right hand is raised in blessing, while His feet rest upon the grotesque heads —representing the powers of evil trampled under foot— which form the decoration of the outer member of the arch below: a variation of the beak moulding as it is sometimes called. The tympanum of the doorway itself is filled up with a single stone, on which is carved the representation of two animals—one winged—fighting for or feeding upon or supporting a tree or cross. I should be glad to know the meaning of this device, which I believe is not uncommon. Returning to the interior of the church one cannot help being struck with the beauty of the aspect eastwards. The central space under the tower is always dark, but the chancel itself is beautifully light, and the altar stands out framed by the striking arch which supports the western side of the tower. This arch springs from a cluster of Norman columns—now slightly out of the perpendicular—the centre one of which on each side is ornamented with spiral mouldings and surmounted by a compound cushion capital. The four other capitals are carved with admirably executed and well-preserved emblems of the four Evangelists. The arch was doubtless circular when the church was first built, and with the chevron moulding all round. This moulding now runs up but a short way on each side, and the arch, which has been transformed into a pointed one, is now finished in plain stone, the soffits of the Norman voussoirs retaining their original curved surfaces as items of the circular arch. And that this is not the original form of the arch is further borne out by the fact that high up in the wall of the tower there is a piece of stone moulded in this way, and so probably taken from the arch itself when the tower was built or re-built in the 14th century. The font is a very remarkable one. It is large, circular, of Early Norman date and elaborately decorated, and bears the following inscription in Roman letters :—

HOC FONTIS SACRO PEREUNT DELICTA LAVACRO.

There are also traces of another inscription on the edge which is now well nigh indecipherable. The chantry on the south side is separated from the nave by a very good plain chamfered late Early English arch; the responds which support it are good and the capitals boldly carved with foliage. It has a beautifully proportioned east window, a mutilated piscina, and an aumbry. In the chancel there is another piscina of inferior design and

well-proportioned priests' door with ogeed and foliated head; and close by it a small two-light Decorated window of very good design, in addition to three other larger windows.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar was very cordially given and suitably acknowledged.

The last place visited was Norton St. Philip, where the Vicar (the Rev. R. B. Warren) read a history of the church and parish. The village of Norton St. Philip in which stands this interesting church—dedicated not to St. Philip and All Saints', or to St. Philip and St. Jacob, but to St. Philip and St. James—appears in Domesday Book (1084) under the simple name "Nortuna." There we learn that the Manor was held at that time under the Crown by Edward de Sausberi (Salisbury); that it was held by Iving in the time of King Edward (the Confessor); that it contained a mill and a population of some 19 souls. The Manor descended from Edward to Ella, Countess of Salisbury, who gave it to the Carthusian House of Hinton, now known as Hinton Charterhouse, which she founded in 1227. It has been supposed that she was the foundress of this church. In 1292 the church was rated at 15 marks. In 1527 the living of Norton was united with the Chapelry of Hinton. At the Dissolution of the Monastery of Hinton in 1539 the lands belonging to it in Norton were alienated and passed to Lord Craven. In 1825 or 1826 the parishes of Hinton and Norton were divided, and the patronage of the living of Hinton passed into the hands of the vicar of Norton.

[See former visit of the Bath Branch in the Proceedings, volume II, pages 30 and 31, for detailed account of Church.]

Tea was afterwards served at the George Inn in the room which the Duke of Monmouth slept shortly before the battle of Sedgemoor. After tea, the Rev. R. B. Warren read some notes on the building. In the reign of Henry III. it appears that a license was issued to hold a fair, afterwards called May Fair, in Norton on ye Vigil Feast and Morrow of St. Philip and St. James.

The George is a remarkable structure of the latter part of the 14th century or the earlier part of the 15th century, and its exceedingly picturesque appearance must arrest the attention of the most casual visitor. The building throughout is of a substantial character, the walls being of great thickness, and the arched oak roofing affords striking proof of the thoroughness with which it was built. Its capacious porch, its quaint and curious outbuildings, its overhanging upper stories, upon

THE GEORGE INN, NORTON ST. PHILIP.

Photos Miss Rodman

URCHFONT CHURCH.

rude corbels, the small and beautiful campanile or bell-tower at the point of each gable, and the design of some of its windows all invest the pile with antiquarian and architectural interest. Inside the George can be seen the ample loft or garret where the wool bales for tbe great fairs were yearly housed and sold; Cromwell's Room with its oak panelling, door, and quaint bolts; and the gallery leading to what were once bedchambers. Outside can be seen the large projecting window which is such a picturesque feature of the house and which lights the apartment wherein the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth slept on Friday, June 26th, 1685, the night before the battle of Philip's Norton, which is so well described in "Monmouth at Philip's Norton," by Miss H. C. Foxcroft. [See former visit of the Bath Branch in the Proceedings, volume II, pages 31-32, for detailed account of Miss Foxcroft's notes on Monmouth at Philip's Norton.] It is said that it was at this window that Monmouth appeared when he was shot at. Below this window may be seen some steps which are a modern excrescence and conceal a handsome doorway.

The Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, and this was warmly accorded.

A similar compliment to Mr. Gerald Grey for arranging the excursion was moved by Mr. Kemeys-Tynte.

A start was then made for Bath, which was reached about 6.30 p.m.

Iford Manor, Farleigh Hungerford, and Hinton Charterhouse.

Radiant weather favoured the third of the season's excursions, which took place on Monday, June 16th. Those making the trip numbered nearly 80, which is a record, and three char-a-bancs and several smaller vehicles were required to convey them.

A pleasant drive brought the visitors to Iford Manor. One of the principal features of the Manor is a very fine fire-place, dating back to about 1450, which was found some time ago, while another discovery was a doorway leading from the hall into an inner room, where there were some very fine stone carvings, and some coloured glass also attracted attention. Two gargoyles in the hall also came under the notice of the visitors. Perhaps the most enjoyable feature of the visit to Iford was the walk round the beautiful grounds. Mr. Peto,

the owner, kindly conducted the party, and pointed out the objects of interest. The grounds are on the side of a hill, and are laid out in terraces. Roses bloomed abundantly, and ramblers were trained about over the cloisters, on the walls of which several peculiar carvings commanded the attention. On one of the terraces was a well bearing Theodric's monogram, while a number of carved stone and metal figures also came under the notice of the visitors.

Mr. Peto was very cordially thanked on the proposition of Mr. M. H. Scott.

At Farleigh Castle (now the property of Earl Cairns) the interesting old chapel, containing fine monuments to the Hungerfords, armour and carved oak furniture, was inspected, and subsequently the visitors assembled outside, where Mr. M. H. Scott read some notes on the Hungerford family. The Hungerford family was without much doubt originally connected with the town of Hungerford in Berkshire. The first of any eminence was Sir Robert de Hungerford, Knight of the Shire for Wilts in 1325. His nephew, Sir Thomas, who purchased Farleigh Montfort from Lord Burghersh in 1369, and changed its name to Farleigh Hungerford, was the first Speaker of the House of Commons mentioned in the Rolls. It is not known whether his portrait in the window of Farleigh Hungerford Church is contemporary or not; the church was not built till 1443, forty-five years after Sir Thomas's death, but experts agree in assigning a very early date to the portrait, and it may have been brought from the Castle chapel, where his effigy lies on a tomb. Sir Walter, the next heir, was Speaker in the second Parliament of Henry V. at Leicester—30th April to May 29, 1414. He also was Member for Wilts. He fought against the French, was created a K.G. and made a Baron, becoming Lord Hungerford of Homet and Heytesbury. He was Steward of the Household to Henry V. and Lord High Treasurer of England. He completed Farleigh Castle, and having absorbed the parish church as the Castle chapel built the present church of St. Leonard for the parishioners. He died in the Castle on August 9, 1449, and was buried in Salisbury Cathedral in the Iron Chapel originally erected by him for burial purposes in the north aisle of the nave. His remains and those of his wife, Catherine Peverell, with the Iron Chapel, were removed by their descendant, Lord Radnor, and placed on the south side of the Presbytery, as recorded on a brass plate dated 1779. The eldest son, Sir Walter, having died in his father's lifetime, leaving no issue, the second son, Robert, succeeded to the title and estates. He married Margaret, granddaughter and heiress

Photos Miss Longworth Dames

THE GARDENS, IFORD MANOR.

of Lord Botreaux, of Cornwall, who had obtained the Newton St. Loe property by marriage with the heiress. Sir Robert Hungerford had fought in France, and was taken prisoner at the Battle of Putaye in 1429. He had to pay £7,690 as ransom, and married on returning to England. He died in 1459, and was buried in the family chapel, now destroyed, on the north side, outside of Salisbury Cathedral. This chapel was erected by the Lady Hungerford, his widow, who died in 1477. The third Lord Hungerford—Robert, son of the second Lord—married Eleanor, the daughter and heiress of Lord de Moleyns. He fought in France, was taken prisoner at Chatillon in 1453, but released after seven years on payment of a large ransom. He fought for Henry VI., but being on the losing side he was beheaded after the battle of Hexham, at Newcastle, in 1464, and was buried in Salisbury Cathedral. His two baronies were forfeited. His son and successor, Sir Thomas Hungerford, of Rowden, near Chippenham, married Lady Anne Percy. He and Henry Courtenay, probably a cousin—for Elizabeth, daughter of the first Lord Hungerford, married Sir Philip Courtenay—were imprisoned in 1461 for conspiracy, and in 1469 they were taken from the "Sheriff's prison at New Sarum" and executed for high treason at Salisbury. The family estates, which had been confiscated, were given by Edward IV. to his brother Richard, Duke of Gloucester, after the death of Sir Thomas Hungerford. It does not appear that the Duke of Gloucester ever resided at Farleigh, but his brother, George, Duke of Clarence, seems to have done so, for his daughter, Margaret Plantagenet, was born in Farleigh Castle on August 14th, 1473. It was she who, as Countess of Salisbury, was barbarously executed by Henry VIII. in 1541 on a charge of high treason. The historians of the day relate that she refused to lay her head upon the block, saying "She was no traitor, and if the executioner wanted her head he might get it as he could." The man was obliged to follow her round the scaffold, chopping at her head, until at length he hewed it from her shoulders. Cardinal Pole was her son. Margaret Lady Hungerford was herself for some time under the displeasure of the King, Edward IV., and was even arrested, but was allowed to retire to the Monastery at Amesbury. She afterwards lived at her hospital at Heytesbury, and died there. Sir Thomas Hungerford left no son. His only daughter, Mary, married Lord Hastings, and carried with her many manors, an arrangement however being made that Farleigh should be kept in the male line of the Hungerfords, and in 1485, after the death of the Duke of Norfolk, it was restored to the family. The succession now passed to Sir Walter, the younger brother of Sir Thomas

Hungerford. He lived at Heytesbury and was buried there in 1516. His son, Sir Edward, married Jane de la Zouche, and their coat of arms, on stained glass, found in a cottage at Wellow, is now in Farleigh Church. He married, as his second wife, Agnes, whose maiden name has not been preserved, widow of John Cotell. He would seem to have lived happily with her, for by his will he left her all his personal property, his son and heir Walter not being mentioned. He died in 1521, and there seem to have been rumours that he was poisoned by his wife. There is no reason to believe that this was the case, but after Sir Edward's death she was certainly tried for being instrumental in procuring the death of her first husband, John Cotell, the murder having been committed actually within the walls of Farleigh Castle, and the body thrown into the kitchen furnace there. She was found guilty, and hanged at Tyburn, in March, 1523. On 15th July following, Walter Hungerford obtained livery from the King to hold all the lands which his stepmother had held for her life. Walter Hungerford was summoned by writ as Hungerford of Heytesbury in 1536, but never afterwards. For his services against Richard III., he received from Henry VII. much of his father's forfeited estates. He was made a Baron in 1536, as Lord Hungerford of Heytesbury, but in 1541 was beheaded on Tower Hill, at the same time as Thomas Cromwell, when his honours and lands were confiscated. Walter, Lord Hungerford of Heytesbury, was married three times. To each of his wives he seems to have behaved somewhat strangely. Lord Hungerford was charged with treasonable practices against the King's life, and though the charge seems to have been frivolous—Banks suggests that his crime seems to have been "preferred rather to get possession of his great estate than for the seriousness of his offence"—being accused at the same time of other crimes, he was convicted and beheaded. Walter Lord Hungerford seems to have left two sons — Sir Walter by his first wife and Sir Edward by his second wife, who was a daughter of Lord Sandys. The former left no son, though he was thrice married; one of his daughters, Lucy, married Sir Anthony Hungerford of Black Bourton, and their son, Sir Edward Hungerford, married Margaret Halliday. Sir Walter died in 1596. Sir Edward, who succeeded his half brother Walter, as just mentioned, left no son. Sir Edward was Gentleman Pensioner to Queen Elizabeth. He married his cousin Jane, daughter of Sir Anthony Hungerford, of Down Ampney, and secondly Cicely Tufton. His only daughter, Mary, married Robert Shaa. Sir Edward, having no son, left his property at his death in 1607 to Sir Edward, the son of his niece Lucy, wife of Sir

Anthony Hungerford of Black Bourton. Sir Edward was for a short time a Parliamentary officer, and with a force of 1,300 men besieged Wardour Castle in 1643, when Lady Arundel, the wife of the owner, who was absent with the Royalist troops, after a siege of six days, her garrison consisting of 50 persons only, including women, honourably capitulated. Sir Edward married Margaret, who was daughter and co-heiress of William Halliday, Alderman of London, and died without issue in 1648. His widow founded the large almshouse at Corsham, and died in 1672. He sat for Malmesbury in the Long Parliament. Anthony, half brother of the last-mentioned Sir Edward, succeeded him, and died in 1657. He was followed by his son, Sir Edward Hungerford, K.B., the last of the Hungerfords of Farleigh Castle. Having squandered his patrimony, he obtained from Charles II. a charter to convert his town residence into a market. The project was unsuccessful. Hungerford Market was not erected until 1830; the Charing Cross Railway Terminus now stands on its site. Sir Edward Hungerford died in 1711, and was buried in St. Mildred's Church, London. His only son, Edward, predeceased him.

Tea was served at the Hungerford Arms, after which the journey was resumed to Hinton Charterhouse. Arrriving at the church Mr. Grey announced that the Rector (the Rev. A. W. Dorman) was away from home, but had kindly supplied him with some notes on the church. Mr. Charles Foxcroft, who is a vice-president of the Bath Branch, was abroad, and wrote regretting his inability to be present, but in his absence the visitors were joined by Miss Foxcroft at the church.

Mr. Grey read the following notes:—The oldest portion of this church—dedicated to SS. Mary and John the Baptist—is the lowest portion of the tower, which is considered to be temp. Henry II. The nave and south aisle are Early English; but the present east window was inserted during last century from designs by Sir Gilbert Scott. The remaining windows of the chancel, nave, and south aisle are interesting; the east window of the south aisle being especially noteworthy, as a rare example of a "Trinity window," a fact unfortunately not realised when the modern glass was inserted. There is a curious window above the reading-desk. It is evident from the exterior that the slope in the interior represents a modern filling-up of a larger aperture; and it has been suggested that the lower part was formerly filled by shutters; forming what seems to be known as a "Low side" window. Two small lancets in the south aisle can be seen from outside, being concealed inside by monuments. The glass in the east window is by Kempe, that on the south side of the chancel by Powell.

The carving of the oak reredos was done by the "Somerset Arts and Crafts;" the lower portion, with design of fleur-de-lis and crosses, being executed by the village schoolmaster about 50 years ago. It need hardly be said that the debased west window, the upper part of the tower, and the north aisle belong to what is known as the "Churchwarden Period." The porch, with its stone seats and curious exterior mouldings, would probably repay restoration and removal of its present plaster ceiling. The font is Norman. The modern Perpendicular windows in the north aisle were filled with beautiful figured glass last year, mainly by public subscription. They were put up to the memory of Mr. Edward T. D. Foxcroft, the late squire of Hinton Charterhouse. There is only one monument in the church of any interest, that in the north wall of the tower, to an old couple "who lived together 52 years and deceased both in one day." Situated about half a mile distant are the ruins of the Carthusian Priory of Hinton, founded by Ela, daughter of William de Eurlux, Earl of Salisbury, in the year 1240. It ceased to be used as a priory in 1539.

Bath was reached about 6.45, after a very enjoyable time had been spent.

Urchfont, Market Lavington, Stonehenge, and Warminster.

Delightful weather favoured this excursion on Friday, July 11th; the party numbered 52. Leaving Laura Place at 10 a.m. by motor char-a-bancs, a drive of an hour and three quarters *via* Devizes brought the members to Urchfont, where they were met and conducted over the Church of St. Michael and All Angels by the Vicar (the Rev. Hamlyn Hill). Mr. Hill kindly described the building and pointed out that Mr. Ponting in his report of the Wiltshire Archæological Society's visit in 1890 said the font and chancel arch were the only relics traceable of a Norman church. In putting new floors in the west half of the nave stone foundations of a shorter church were found about 9 feet from the west end of the nave. These foundations ran also under the arches, showing that that church had no aisles. As all the foundations of the present church were of hard chalk, until concrete was substituted in many places, it is thought that these stone foundations were for a Saxon church. Excepting the font and arch, the oldest parts of the present building are the transepts, dating from the first half of the 14th century; and, two

centuries later, when the free (church) chapel at Eastcott was confiscated, the south transept was assigned to Eastcott people and the north to Wedhampton. The chancel was restored immediately after the transepts. It is of three bays, divided by buttresses of unusual form, exaggerated in width not in projection, a form said to be found in the South of France. There is a porch over the priest's door on the north, formed by carrying up the basemould of the buttress. The roof is vaulted in stone on the inside, with the central and intersecting ribs usual at that period. The subjects of the carved bosses, reckoning from the east, are: St. Michael and the Dragon; a pelican feeding her young; a mermaid; and two serpents.

The parapet is a curious double-stage arrangement with quartrefoil openings, through which the water ran off, and a string course above them. The south aisle is a beautiful example of fully developed late decorated work of a flowing type. The porch is of later date, as may be seen by the weather marks on the inner doorway. The inside of the roof has been carefully restored, and the outside also except the terminal fleur de lys, which Mr. Ponting preferred to leave as they were. Almost buried by the addition of the porch is a beautiful window of the south aisle with stem and leaf ornament.

Mr. Sidney Todd thanked the vicar for his kindness in describing the church.

A short drive brought the party to the Church of St. Mary the Assumption at Market Lavington, which was visited by permission of the Vicar (the Rev. J. A. Sturton), who was away on holiday and kindly sent the following notes compiled by Mr. C. E. Ponting, and which were read by Mr. Grey:—

The plan of the church consists of nave with north and south aisles, south porch, western tower, and chancel, with a sacristy on the north side of the latter, all ancient. That a Norman church stood here is shown by the pieces of stone ornament, including the chevron and billet moulds of that period, which are built into the walls of the porch and outside of the east end of the nave—these were found during the restoration of the church in 1862. There is also a distinct and interesting feature of the same date—though it does not occupy its old position—the bowl of a stoup, now in the vestry and forming a piscina. The narrowness of the south aisle also indicates an early foundation. The nave and aisles were apparently re-built very early in the fourteenth century; the

three-light windows inserted in the south wall are apparently of seventeenth century Gothic, and have square heads. The cusping of the early west window has been cut away. A piscina in the east respond of the arcade here doubtless indicates the Chantry chapel of St. Mary, St. Katherine and St. Margaret, in which Robert de la Mere, a relative of William Beauchamp, of Bromham, Lord St. Amand, ordered his body to be buried—he died in 1457. The Delamare Chantry appears to have occupied the east end of the north aisle of Market Lavington Church, which was most probably separated by open screen work from the rest of the building. Beneath the east window, of three unconnected trefoil-headed lights, there are distinct traces of an altar, and in the north face of the eastern pier of the nave arcade, close to the east wall, is the accompanying piscina, also trefoil-headed. The tower is a good example of the early fifteenth century work.

After luncheon at the Railway Hotel, West Lavington, Stonehenge was visited by the kind permission of Sir Edmund Antrobus, Bart.

Mr. M. H. Scott read the following paper on the Trilithons:

Stonehenge is not the largest stone circle in Britain, but in some respects it is unique. It will be as well to begin by pointing out the plan of the building. The entrance is on the north-east, by the avenue, marked by a bank and ditch. There was an outer circle of 30 stones, with imposts of stone placed horizontally on the uprights; then came a circle of smaller stones, next a horse-shoe, or part of an oval, formed by 5 pairs of large stones called "trilithons," rising in height from east to west; and inside this a horse-shoe of smaller stones. The whole building is surrounded by a ditch. You will notice that the large stones have been dressed or shaped, the smaller stones are in their natural rough state. The large stone, called the Friar's Heel, outside the circle to the east, the outer circle, the larger horse-shoe, and three of the other stones are Sarsen stones, a fine-grained species of silicious sandstone. The remaining stones are of the nature of Syenite or greenstone. Three questions naturally arise :—1. Why was this place called Stonehenge? 2. Who built it? 3. What was its object? We have no certain knowledge, and there are no traditions. It is curious that there are no traditions about any of the British stone circles, though some have fanciful names, and have been made the basis of fairy tales. The most reasonable etymology appears to be Stan-hengst, or the hanging-stones, either from the imposts, or from the effect which the structure had when viewed from a distance. The name, of course, is Saxon, but we do not know what the original name was, or if it had a

Photos Miss Rodman

STONEHENGE.

distinctive name. The Welsh Triads call Stonehenge Gwaith Enreis, the stone of the revolution, with obvious reference to the solar year. And the Triads, though they cannot be traced further back than the 10th century, often refer to matters and tales which were very old when they were written. The second part of the name, Hengst, has been held by some to refer to the slaughter of the Britons by Hengist and his Saxons; but Stonehenge seems, for many reasons, to be much older than that episode. The name in its present form is first used by Henry of Huntingdon, and Geoffrey of Monmouth, in the 12th century. As to who built Stonehenge. It was thought, not long ago, that the Phœnicians were its architects. But it has been urged that they are not likely to have remained long enough in Britain for such a work, and there is no evidence that they were anything more than carriers of produce, tin and other matters from Britain to other countries. They may have used Stonehenge as a storehouse, an observatory, and even as a temple, but it is most unlikely that they built it. I think, however, that it is very probable they may have originated the name "Friar's Heel," for they were acquainted with Greek, and the name sounds very like a corruption of "Pharos Heliov," the lighthouse of the sun. The Aryans, I think, must be credited with the erection of Stonehenge, in its original form at least. We do not know much about these people as yet, but the way in which they pervaded the whole world is simply marvellous, and new traces of their presence are being continually discovered, in places so widely apart as Crete and Mexico, among many others. The old legendary poems relate that Merlin employed supernatural agency to remove the stones from Ireland to Salisbury Plain, these stones having been originally brought from Africa. There may be some germs of truth in these stories, for some of the stones are not of local origin, and are similar to stones found in Ireland, But the Arthurian legends are found in Cornwall, Wales, and Brittany, and anything puzzling was frequently set down to the credit of Arthur, or some other Pendragon. Though it is, of course, quite possible that some of the stones may have been imported by priests or "Merlins," especially if they seemed to have a special sanctity, in the same way as the Stone at Scone, now in the Coronation Chair, was brought over. There appears to be some ground for the view that Stonehenge, the remains of which are now before us, is an elaboration of the original structure, which was of considerably older date than 1680 B.C. The notion that Stonehenge and similar erections were built by the Druids rests on a very slender basis. There were Druids, Cæsar mentions them, his great friend Divitiacus was one. But the Druids were priests

and lawgivers, not builders. And the thrilling accounts of white robes and golden sickles belong to Pliny's Natural History, by no means a safe authority in such matters. There are no allusions in the Welsh Triads to any of these things. And even Geoffrey of Monmouth, in describing the triumphant sacrifices by Cassivelaunus, has no word of any Druids. While, however there is no proof that the Druids built Stonehenge, they may have used it, and kept it, if necessary in repair. Ambrosius may have derived his name from having repaired the "ambres," or sacred stones of which it is composed. Giraldus Cambrensis (1146-1223), says that Ambrosius, at the instigation of Merlin, brought the stones called "Choréa Gigantum" from Ireland and set them up at Stonehenge. The mention of Ireland is curious, for Milesius' invasion of Ireland took place about the same date as the building of Solomon's Temple, and Milesius, according to the old Irish historians, was Solomon's brother-in-law. Finally as to the object for which Stonehenge was erected. There seems to be no doubt that it must have been erected as a Temple of the Sun, and it also formed an elaborate observatory. The many points in accordance with the phases of the sun cannot be accidental, and though a comparison of Stonehenge with the splendid Temples of the Sun in Egypt can hardly be made, there are resemblances which cannot be ignored. Stonehenge would appear to be closely connected with Silbury, for, from the centre of the former, the bearing of the principal bench-mark on Silbury is 49° 34′ 18″, and the same line continued through Stonehenge to the south-west strikes Grovely Castle, an ancient fortification, at 49° 35′ 51″. It would seem, therefore, that the sunrise Silbury line must have been prolonged till a suitable place on the down for a temple was found. Mr. Baring Gould considered that Stonehenge was a crematorium or a place where bodies were burnt. Some circles may have been for this purpose, but it is hardly likely that so stupendous an erection as Stonehenge should have been raised for such a purpose. And it is not explained why such crematoria should only exist in certain parts of Britain. Whether the other stone circles were built as temples or observatories, or whether some at least of them were built in imitation of Stonehenge because that was considered a sort of standard plan, is a view which has yet to be considered after careful local inquiry. Stanton Drew, according to Sir Norman Lockyer, dates from about 1200 B.C. In 1902 Sir Norman Lockyer, Director of the Solar Physics Laboratory, and Mr. Penrose, the well-known antiquary, made some observations with a view to ascertaining the date on which Stonehenge was probably erected, supposing it to have been intended as a Solar Temple. On June 21 the avenue

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was staked out, and its bisection was found to agree almost absolutely with the axis of the temple itself. The azimuth of the avenue, that is, its position E. of N. on the horizon, was found to be 49° 34′ 18″. And it was found that the sun had shifted nearly two diameters. The measurement, according to Stockwell's tables, gave 1680 B.C. as the approximate date of the building of Stonehenge. This calculation does not take the Friar's Heel into consideration, for it was found to be off the axis line. It has been suggested that it may be the surviving member of an advanced trilithon, through, and not over, which the sun's rays reached the altar stone. When excavations were made after the trilithon fell in December, 1900, a great many stone axes and hammers were found which had been undoubtedly used in dressing the stones which form Stonehenge. Not a single bronze or iron tool was found. It therefore follows that Stonehenge was put up before the use of metal tools had become common in Wiltshire. These stone tools are suggestive of old stone-age rather than new stone-age, and an experiment with one of them on a piece of Sarsen stone made precisely similar markings to those on the unexposed end of the "leaning stone."

The last place to be visited was the Minster Church of St. Denys, at Warminster, where the members were met by the Rev. H. R. Whytehead (Vicar), who gave an interesting description of the building.

In Sir Richard Colt Hoare's book it is stated that a church, dedicated to SS. Simon and Jude, existed in Saxon times a short distance south-west from the present church, but it cannot have stood more than two centuries, as there is yet to be seen in the present church *(in situ)* a small semi-circular arch of the 11th century. Sir Arthur Blomfield said that there appears to be a gap of some 300 years in the architectural history of the church, *i.e.*, between the little Norman arch in the north transept and the 14th century work of the tower and its supporting arches. Then came the 15th century chancel and transepts, and lastly the south aisle of the chancel, called the Lady Aisle, originally a Chantry chapel built by the Maudint family (Henry VII.). After this time the church must have fallen into a sad state of decay. In 1660 the first gallery was placed in the north transept, and others added as the population increased. In the year 1724 the greater part of the building west of the central tower (except the south porch) was barbarously pulled down, and an extremely ugly nave was built on the old foundations, which, with its many galleries, accommodated 1250 persons. This nave (still remembered by the oldest inhabitants) was quite

out of character with the ancient tower and east portion of the ancient church, which still remained. In the year 1886, under Sir A. Blomfield, this modern nave was pulled down and (preserving the south porch and the lowest portions of the injured walls) the present nave was erected. I call your attention to the yew tree near the south porch. It may be 400 years old, and is an unusually fine specimen of its kind. The title "minster," which is now generally given to this parish church of the town, has only been in use (at least in modern days) since 1886. There never was a "minster" in Warminster, in the sense of a monastery, so far as history tells. But it is possible that there was one before the Danish invasions.

Mr. Whytehead called attention to the plate of the church, which was on view, and said he believed the flagon was a particularly fine specimen of early 17th century, and there were two chalices and patens more or less contemporary with it. The silver-gilt vessels were a gift to the church by a lady of boundless generosity.

After tea at the Bath Arms Hotel, Dr. Norman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Scott for his paper on Stonehenge and to Mr. Whytehead for explaining the Minster Church to them.

Mr. Whytehead and Mr. Scott returned thanks, and the latter moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Gerald Grey for the admirable way in which he had organised the excursion. This was heartily accorded and acknowledged by Mr. Grey.

Bath was reached shortly after 6.30.

West & East Harptree, Stowey, and Sutton Court.

The last but one of this season's excursions took place on Tuesday, September 16th, in fine weather. The party numbered between 40 and 50, and the journey was made by motor char-a-bancs, while several members came in private motors. The start was made from Queen Square, and after an hour's run West Harptree was reached.

The visitors were met by the Rev. F. E. Powning, who first conducted them to Tilly Manor, which, he said, was first inhabited in 1194.

Mr. M. H. Scott read a few notes on the building, and pointed out that soon after the Conquest Tilly Manor was

owned by the ancient family of Tilly, who were one of the most illustrious in Normandy. At the beginning of the reign of Richard I. there was a Tilly living at West Harptree. William Tilly, who was a benefactor to the Abbey of Glastonbury, was lord in the reign of Edward III. Lionel Tilly was the last of the family who possessed the Manor ; he lived in the reign of Henry VI. In 1476 it was the property of Walter Rodney, but in 1543 the Manor was Crown property and was granted to Lord John Russell, who subsequently sold it to John Buckland, whose family held it until the end of the 17th century. One of the features of the house which was pointed out was a fireplace over which was the date 1659. It also contains a fine old carved staircase, and one of the rooms upstairs is panelled in cedar wood.

Mr. Powning next conducted the party to Gurney Manor, which belongs to the Duchy of Cornwall. The oldest part of it is from the porch up to the balcony, which is Elizabethan. Over the doorway is the crest of the Buckland family. Mr. Scott also read a short history of the building and its former owners. It contains some fine 18th century fireplaces and a beautiful staircase.

Parsonage Farm was next visited, and here Mr. Powning called attention to a mantelpiece on which was inscribed "M. B., July 21, 1642." The "M. B.," he remarked, was the initials of Mary Buckland, who lived there for thirty years up to 1672. There was no question that the house was once the ancient Vicarage.

At the church, which was next visited, Mr. Powning explained the points of interest. The church was restored in 1864, before which time the roof and the spire were covered with lead. The most ancient parts were the chancel and the north door, which was now hidden, and the tower. A piscina at the west end was a curious canopy which was supposed to have been for an image of the patron saint of the Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary. Outside they had some fine old yew trees, one facing east being supposed to be at least 1,000 years old. One near the horse pool dated from the time of Cromwell, 1657, and Buckland planted a tree outside the church about 1663, and it was stated in his oldest register that when planted it was about the thickness of a man's arm. The Vicar made a special appeal for contributions to form the nucleus of a fund to open up and restore the north doorway, pointing out that the parish was a very poor one, and that it was sometimes a very big effort for the Vicar to make both ends meet.

The Rev. F. H. Mules moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Powning, which was heartily accorded.

The journey was then made to East Harptree, where, after luncheon at the Waldegrave Arms, the visitors were conducted over the church by Mr. Kettlewell, who deputised for the Rector (the Rev. G. B. Shallcross) who had been called away. Apparently the only Norman remains are the nave walls, the inner doorway in the south porch, portions of the chapel and chancel, and the font. Perhaps the most striking feature is the large and handsome tomb placed in the south porch to Sir John Newton. Lying upon the tomb under a canopy supported by pillars lies a life-size effigy of Sir John. On the two front panels below all his children are represented. Eight sons are shown on one panel and twelve daughters on the other. The tomb was originally in the chancel, and formed a kind of reredos under the east window. The inner doorway of the porch is Norman. The font is also of Norman date, but is greatly disfigured by the addition of an unsightly octagonal upper portion composed of a different kind of stone, which is quite out of keeping with the original work. In the chancel on the south side there is a single and double piscina, and in the north pier of the chancel arch a hagioscope or squint may be seen. These oblique openings were driven through the piers of churches so that a view of the altar might be obtained. The east window, of two lights, represents in one division Christ bearing the Cross, and in the other the Crucifixion. The tower contains six bells. The oldest, dating from about 1400, bears the following inscription upon it : "Ihesus-Nazarenus-Rex." The roof of the nave of open timber is in the Perpendicular style, but somewhat plain. The pulpit is Jacobean, the panels being carved in the shallow and well-known designs of the period. Some of the bench-ends in the nave are ancient and are finely carved. They originally belonged to the high and uncomfortable pews with which the church was furnished before the restoration, and were used as far as possible to form the ends of the present seats. The restoration of the building was undertaken in 1883.

The Rev. F. C. Bayliss moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Kettlewell, and regretted the absence of the Rector, whom they also thanked for allowing them to look over the church.

A move was then made for Stowey, where the Rev. J. G. Hill (Rector) met the visitors, and pointed out the features of interest in the church, also referring to the history of the parish.

Stowey is not mentioned in Domesday. It is certain, however, that a family of the name of Fitz-Richard were at a very early date the owners of the Manor. Their name is still preserved in the parish by a hill known as Richard's-hill. The property remained in the Fitz-Richard family for many generations. About the year 1600 the estates came to the family of Jones by purchase. The property remained in the possession of the Jones family until 1840. In that year William Jones Burdett, who was connected by marriage with the Jones family, died, and his estate was sold to Sir Edward Strachey, a descendant of whom still holds it. The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas and St. Mary the Virgin, and, although its exact date cannot be fixed from any existing records, it may be taken to have been erected in the 13th century. There are no two windows alike in the whole building, and most of these are of plain glass. On the exterior of the north wall of the chancel, over the doorway, is a most interesting niche, which contains a weather-beaten and mutilated figure of one of the patron saints, either that of St. Nicholas or St. Mary. Close by on the same wall, near the chancel, a pair of shears is to be seen on the carved stone. The font is of 14th century date. It is octagonal in shape, and upon one of its sections has a cockle-shell beautifully carved. It is said the cockle-shell denotes the age of the font, but it is also asserted that it was used in the days of pilgrimages, and was presented to pilgrims as a token that they had accomplished their journey. The roof of the church is wagon-shape, and until recently was covered with lath and plaster. The present Rector, however, had this removed, and the roof is now seen in its original fine character. Upon the wall under the tower is a rare specimen of the Royal Arms of the time of Charles II. On the top are the letters "C. R., 1660," and at the foot the Royal motto. The west end, under the tower, formerly had a ringing gallery, but this was removed by the present Rector, and the fine west window is now seen to full advantage. The tower contains five bells, but they are much in need of repair and consequently cannot be used. On one of the bells is inscribed: "Richard Beebee made all we." Beebee was a bell-founder of Chew Stoke. On the outside of the church are three sheep's heads, and it was possible that the church was a guild church. There are also some fine paintings in the chancel, one depicting Our Lord at Emmaus, and another, which has been spoiled by the damp, representing the feeding of the 4,000 persons.

On leaving the church the visitors went to Stowey House, under the direction of Mr. H. Strachey. It was formerly the

residence of the Jones family, and was left to two co-heiresses, the last of whom died about 1785. It then passed to the Burdett family and later to the Strachey family. The house has been greatly mutilated.

Sutton Court, the seat of Lord Strachie, was the last place visited. The visitors were received by Lord and Lady Strachie, and Lord Strachie read some interesting notes on the house. It is the Court or Manor House of the Manor of Knighton Sutton, one of the three Suttons included in the grant by Edward the Confessor to Wells Cathedral, the others being Bishop Sutton and Sutton Wick. It was called Knighton Sutton, or Sutton Militis, because held in knight's service, and not by ordinary tenure as was Bishop Sutton. The manor was held when the Domesday survey was made by one Robert, whose successors took from the place their surname "de Sutton." What remains of the battlement, or Great Wall, is of about the same date as the Tower, and was built in the reigns of Edward II. and III. by the Knights Walter and William de Sutton. It has been conjectured that the famous "Building Bess," of Hardwicke, a former possessor of the Court, or Mrs. Baber, a later occupant, may have raised the old south walls in order to make them suitable for a terraced garden. In this tower and within the battlement wall probably lived that William de Sutton, who, in 1322, pleaded before the King's judges that one William, the parson's servant, had trespassed in his Close, called Crondell's. To this William testified that he was servant to the Rector of Stanton Drew, who had right of pasture there after the corn was carried off. Perhaps the parson gained the day, since more than four hundred years later the land was called "Parson's Tenement," and had been so long enough to give that surname to its possessors. In 1429 Knighton Sutton had passed into the possession of the St. Loes, but whether by marriage or purchase is not known. This family of the St. Loes is said to take name from the town of St. Laud in Normandy, over whose gates in the 17th century their arms were to be seen. The first mention of the family in this County was in the 47th year of Henry III., when John de Sancto Laudo held half a fee in Niewton (Newton St. Loe) and Puppelow. John de Sancto Laudo was Sheriff of Dorset and Somerset from 1284 to 1290. The St. Loe of Newton above mentioned was he whom Leland, the antiquary, calls Lord Seintelo, from a younger brother of whom Sir John St. Loe, of Sutton, was descended. John Leland spent some days at Sutton Court in 1534, when he was compiling his "Itinerary of Somerset." It was a member of the St. Loe family that added the Manor House at Sutton Court to the Tower.

The plan of the house as it was originally arranged included a Minstrels' Gallery of black oak, and this ran along the west wall of the hall. Below was an entrance door facing north, in a line with which the north avenue was planted, and a corresponding door with porch on the south. There was a large square-headed door into the kitchen near the south end of the west wall, and a pointed arch, from which the present doorways in the hall are copied, in the same wall near the north-west corner. Part of the old roof timbers of the hall, black with smoke, but not carved, remained till recent years, and a very large Tudor arch, extending almost from the present door to the archway in the north wall, marked—and under the plaster still marks—the ancient fireplace. The present south porch is presumed to have been originally the bay window of the hall. The door is modern, but the two side windows are old. These latter were found built up in their present places. The St. Loe arms, now inserted under the kitchen window, were found on the west wall of the kitchen concealed by other buildings. Sutton Court was an "Old Manor Place" when John Leland visited it in 1534. Four or five years later Sutton Court gave shelter to Bishop Hooper, one of Queen Mary's martyrs, and a native of Somerset. As one of the retainers of the St. Loes he claimed his lord's protection from the storm of the Six Articles. Sir John St. Loe died in 1539. His grandson, Sir William St. Loe, married Elizabeth Hardwicke, afterwards called "Building Bess," and left her possessed of his estates. She is credited with having made various structural alterations at Sutton Court, including the building of the great parlour and the chapel over it. She is also supposed to have panelled the dining-room walls and put up the present carved oak chimney-piece. "Building Bess" gave a portion of her estates, including that of Knighton Sutton, to her second son, Charles Cavendish, whose son was created Earl of Newcastle by Charles I. The old Manor was then let on lease to Edward Baber, Esq., of Chew Magna, whose widow afterwards purchased the reversion, and eventually left it to her son John by her second husband, William Strachey, whose ancestors hailed from Saffron Walden, in Essex.

At the invitation of Lord Strachie the visitors partook of refreshments in the Great Hall, and then made an inspection of the house and beautifully laid-out grounds.

Mr. M. H. Scott, moving a vote of thanks to Lord and Lady Strachie, the Messrs. Strachey and Mr. Hill, thanked them for their kind welcome and hospitality.

Bath was reached punctually at 6.30.

Devizes. The concluding excursion of the season took place on Friday, October 10th. Members proceeded by the 10.15 a.m. G.W.R. to Devizes.

At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin the party were met by Mr. Kite in the unavoidable absence from home of the Rector. Mr. Kite explained that a Latin inscription in the roof of St. Mary's Church, which was first visited, shows that William Smyth, who died on the 1st June, 1436, caused the church to be built. Mr. Kite said he had found a document showing that the church was completed between that date and the following Christmas. The tower seems to have been built separately from the church. In 1856, during the restoration of the church, a series of wall paintings were found, but they were imperfect, having evidently been mutilated before they had been whitewashed over. The walls of the chancel differed from the usual type, inasmuch as they were about four and a half feet in thickness, the intervening space being filled with chalk rubble from the Downs, and the spreading of the walls was possibly owing to this fact. The outer doorway on the south side is a good specimen of the Transition style from Norman to Early English. The series of sculptured figures which project from the parapets of the aisles and clerestory are worthy of notice.

Mr. Kite pointed out that St. Mary's Church stood without the Castle entrenchments. Of this Castle, which was described as "one of the most sumptuous and stately edifices in England," nothing visible remains. St. Mary's Church could not, said Mr. Kite, have been at an early date the parish church, as it would be un-come-atable for the parishioners.

The three photographs of gargoyles on St. Mary's Church represent Death holding up a coffin ; Satan holding up to ridicule a woman wearing an unconventional head-dress, *temp.* Henry V. ; and a woman with the correct head-dress of the same period.

Luncheon was then partaken of at the Bear Hotel, and afterwards the members visited the Museum in Fore Street, under the guidance of Mr. and Mrs. Cunnington, the Hon. Curators.

For greater convenience the party upon arrival at the Museum divided into two sections, Mr. Cunnington taking one and Mrs. Cunnington—who shares to the full her husband's zeal for archæology—taking charge of the other section. As regards the Stourhead collection of pottery it was explained that most of the cinerary urns, cups, and other articles were

Photo Mr. G. J. Grey

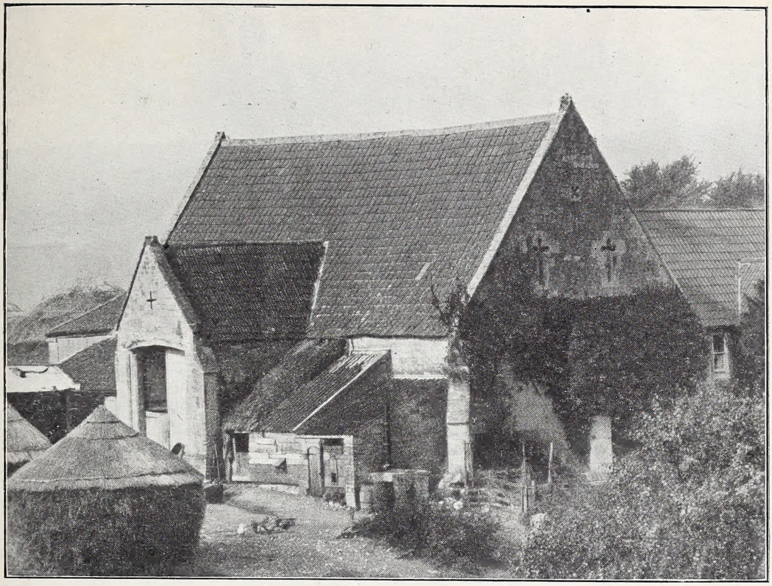
VIRGIN & CHILD, ST. MARY'S CHURCH, DEVIZES.

found about a century ago by Sir Richard Colt Hoare and by the late Mr. Cunnington, who excavated about 200 barrows on the Downs, mostly at Salisbury Plain. After the death of Sir Richard the collection was bought by the Wiltshire Archæological Society and brought to Devizes. The Rev. H. H. Winwood said a large number of urns were rescued from the cellars at Stourhead. He remembered seeing them there in a dirty condition, utterly neglected. It was greatly to the credit of the Wiltshire Society that they had secured them for the County. Another feature of this room is the ornaments found in barrows. The Wiltshire barrows are much richer in gold, amber, and other ornaments than are the barrows in any other part of England. An object of much interest is a sepulchral vase known as "The Marlborough Bucket," which was found full of burnt human bones. The bronze bands of the bucket, of which fragments only remained, were covered with repoussé ornamentation of grotesque animal forms and human faces. The bucket is late Celtic and is absolutely unique. The drinking cups are as a rule earlier than the urns. They are supposed to belong to the very beginning of the bronze age, and as a rule they were found with skeletons, not with cremation burials. It was pointed out that in some instances the cinerary urns had been covered with some cloth material—there are holes pierced at the top for fastening the cloth as a sort of cover.

Mr. Gerald Grey asked whether urns were used for domestic purposes, and the guide said it was a moot point. Some of the drinking vessels were found in pit dwellings. They did not know much about the living sites of the bronze age; most of the sites they knew in Wiltshire were British. Attention was drawn to a lozenge-shaped plate of fine gold found on the breast of a skeleton. The gold plate, which is, perhaps, the largest of its kind ever discovered, was hammered thin on board. A number of blue and green porcelain beads, supposed to have come from Egypt, were presumably "traded" across, and in one grave over 1,000 amber beads were found. The incense cups form a striking feature of the collection. Several beautifully-preserved specimens of what is known as the "Grape" incense cups are on view and it was mentioned that a "Grape" incense cup had also been found at Priddy in Somersetshire. "How ingenious these old people were," remarked Mr. Winwood admiringly, as he gazed at the beautifully-made incense cups and other articles; "we can take many a lesson from them in regard to ornamentation. Talk about savages!" "They were anything but that," rejoined the guide with emphasis. Very noticeable was the

delicate work of a Saxon gold ornament found in a Wiltshire barrow, the pins at each end of a chain being very similar to lace pins now used. Among the coins mention may be made of a silver coin of Alexander the Great, found at Tilshead. Trade in pre-Roman times may have been responsible for bringing it here. There is also in the same case a Touch Piece of Queen Anne, commemorative of touching the King's Evil. The Museum contains a skeleton of a man found in a barrow at Brockley, near Marlborough. He had received a severe blow on the side of the temple, fracturing the skull, but those expert in such matters say that he must have lived for some days after his knock-down blow. There is also a picture of a skeleton representing a man in a crouching position with his hand under his head in an attitude of sleep. The theory that it was the skeleton of a man who had fallen asleep and been buried alive is, however, rejected. Examples of the bronze age were, it was explained, always found crouched, and the attitude is typical of skeletons found in what are known as round barrows.

Mr. Cunnington informed the visitors that he and his wife had been engaged excavating upon an average eight weeks a year for four years. Their discoveries, it may without exaggeration be said, are of immense value to the archæologists and to the student generally. Their "finds" are innumerable, and include flints of the Neolithic period, bronze, pottery, Romano-British pottery, a Saxon sword—one of the finest, if not quite the finest ever found—mediæval tobacco pipes and stoppers, and a host of other interesting articles. Mr. Cunnington stated that by far the most interesting camp was Casterley Camp, the one which they explored last year. In one pit dwelling they found four skeletons, which he assumed to be late Celtic skeletons of a father and mother and two children, and with them were a quantity of implements. The late Dr. Beddoe said it was the first he had seen of that character in the South of England. It was possible that some rival tribe swooped down upon them and set the roof on fire and the whole family perished; the *débris* was mixed with charcoal. Under the chin of one they found the remains of an iron fibula of typical late Celtic type. After the fire the people would seem to have levelled the ground and lived on the surface. The visitors viewed the skulls of the four victims with interest, and attention was then drawn to a remarkable urn with holes on one side, which was said to be similar to several found by General Pitt Rivers at Rushmore, and which he called "churns." Mr. Cunnington said the meaning of the holes was a mystery until one day he was showing an Indian officer



TITHE BARN, INGLESCOMBE.

Photos Mr. G. J. Grey.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, DEVIZES.

(See Notes.)

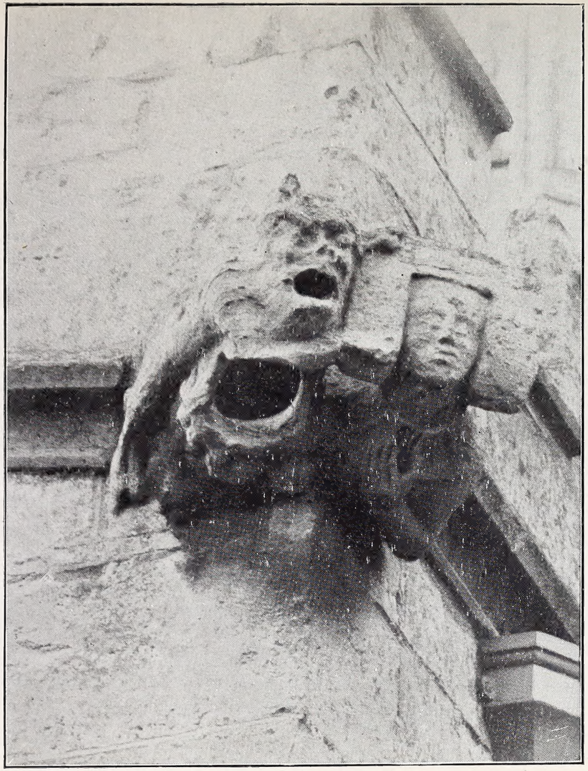
the collection, and he exclaimed " You have a beehive here." He explained that in the native villages of India they built houses of mud and they placed in the wall a vessel with holes similar to that in the Museum. The holes were level with the outer wall, and the bees went in and out. When the native wanted to take some of the honey he blew tobacco smoke into the " hive " to drive the bees out, and a boy was sent outside to put his hand over the holes to prevent the bees returning. The cover of the " hive " was then lifted and the honey taken. The officer added that many years ago when he was going up to storm a village he saw through his glasses the whole place apparently swarming with flies, but they were bees. Nearly every house in the village had a " hive " in the mud wall. Mr. Cunnington said they were glad of the explanation of what had up to that time been a puzzle. On many other sites they found vessels with holes in, but none of them so perfect as the one at Casterley. They not only found dwelling but storing pits at Casterley, and in one they found a small crucible for melting bronze and brass in. A collection of querns attracted attention ; one which was found by Mr. Cunnington at Cannings Cross weighed 94lbs. One case contained a number of fine sling stones ot burnt clay found at Cold Kitchen Hill. Those stones were made red hot by Cæsar's minions and fired on to the thatch of houses, setting the thatch on fire and driving the inmates from their retreat. Among the miscellaneous items mention may be made of the Melksham stocks and of a fine 13th century iron chest which, when Mr. Cunnington first saw it, was in a stable and used as a corn bin !

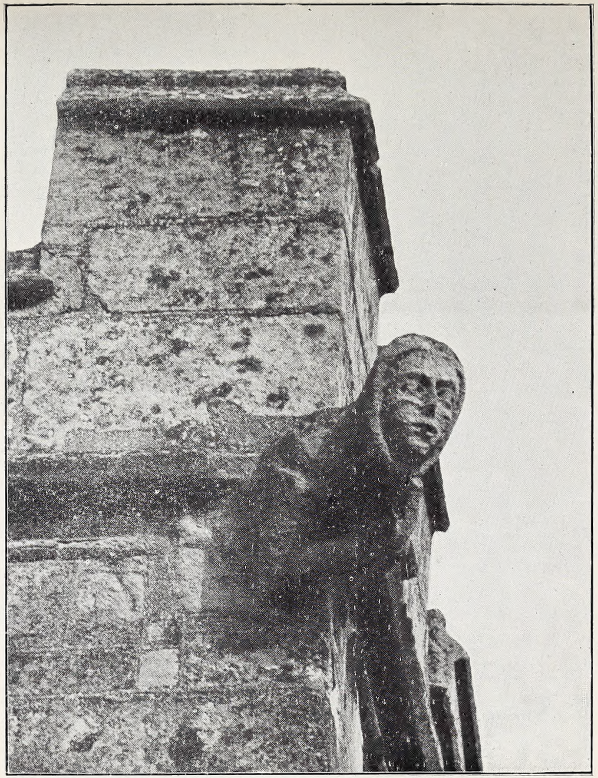
St. John's Church was next visited. Mr. Kite explained that the church of St. John has been pronounced to be " one of the most interesting parochial churches in Great Britain to the architectural antiquary." The church in its original state was cruciform, and consisted simply of chancel, transepts and nave, projecting from the four sides of a central tower. The whole of these older portions still remain, and constitute the greater part of the present structure. The peculiarity of the tower consists in its being, not square, but of the oblong form. On the face of each of the four arches is a variety of the " chevron " moulding, and on that of the western end there was (until removed in 1820) a curious ornament introduced in the hollow between the present chevron and beaded moulding. It is thus described in " Britton's Architectural Antiquities " : On the great arch connecting the tower with the nave is an ornament which I have never seen elsewhere, that is a series of about forty-eight basso-relievo figures representing a peculiar sort of bottle running round the arch. The walls of the chancel

which remain on the north and east sides are Norman date, and exhibit externally specimens of the original pilasters and corbel-table. In the east wall of each transept is a hagioscope.

The Rev. H. H. Winwood at the tea table cordially thanked Mr. Kite and Mr. and Mrs. Cunnington. He remarked that he had been selected to convey the thanks of the visitors to them by reason of the fact that he was the oldest member of the Society present, having joined it at the start. They had been extremely interested in what they had seen. He doubted whether any Museum in England would equal the Devizes Museum in its collection of British pottery. It was, as he had previously said, enormously to the credit of the Wiltshire Archæological Society that they had secured the collection, which was previously in a most disgraceful state in the Stourhead cellars. It was one of the most instructive Museums that he had seen for some time. They had labels which could be read, and that was an important point. The name of Cunnington had been associated with Devizes for he believed 140 years. Mr. Cunnington's father was Curator of the Museum, and the mantle had fallen upon his shoulders and also upon the shoulders of his wife as well. He only wished that the ladies of Bath would follow such an example as Mrs. Cunnington set at Devizes and would help them in their Institution to instruct the people. There was no reason why they should not do so if they only had the pluck to do it, but he could not get any ladies in Bath or anybody in fact to take up the running and do what Mr. and Mrs. Cunnington were doing in Devizes. They also thanked very sincerely Mr. Kite. They were much indebted to him for the information he had given them respecting the two churches, and he quite agreed with him that the former churchwardens ought to be——well, he would not say what; 1840 and thereabouts was the worst period of so-called restoration.

Mr. Cunnington, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, remarked that Mr. Winwood believed there was money at the back of them. He assured him that they had none. They were kept up by subscriptions from 360 members of half-a-guinea a year, and if anyone wished his name added to the list he should be happy to take his subscription. (Laughter.) Their Museum was in its present state of efficiency—and he said it as Honorary Curator without any boasting—because it was connected with a Society that did not shirk work. They had done a great deal of work for many years past, and they had always kept before them the chief aim, which was to make the Museum instructive. He hoped they would allow that it was instructive. (Hear, hear.) Nothing gave his Society





Photos Mr. G. J. Grey

St. Mary's Church, Devizes.

(See Notes.)

greater pleasure than to meet other Societies, and to do all that they could to make their visits instructive. It was only by visiting Museums and seeing such articles as they had at Devizes that the true history of the early inhabitants of this country could be written and retained. He hoped they would come again, because they had only had time to see a small portion of what they had to show.

Mr. Kite also acknowledged Mr. Winwood's recognition of his services.

Before the visitors left Devizes the Rev. F. C. Bayliss, at the invitation of Mr. Winwood, Mr. T. S. Bush and others, cordially thanked Mr. Gerald Grey, the Honorary Excursion Secretary, not only for the arrangements made that day, but for the arrangements made by him for the whole of the season's excursions, of which that was the last. The trips had been of a thoroughly successful character, and they were greatly indebted to Mr. Grey.

The Honorary Excursion Secretary spoke of the pleasure it had afforded him to be of service, and said he was glad to find that such efforts as he had been able to make were appreciated.

Bath was reached shortly after 5.30 p.m.

The Treasurer in Account with the Bath and District Branch Somersetshire Archaeological Society for 1913.

1913. Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last year	82	2	2
,, 171 Members' Subscriptions	42	15	0
,, Sale of "Proceedings"	0	10	0
,, Excursions	5	13	9
,, Two Donations	0	10	0
	£131	10	11

1913. Cr.				£	s.	d.
By "Proceedings" for 1912—J. B. Keene & Co.				20	10	0
,, Hire of Rooms, Literary Institution ..				0	17	6
,, Grant to Lansdown Exploration Fund ..				5	0	0
,, J. B. Keene & Co.—Circulars and Stationery				4	14	6
,, Postage of "Proceedings," &c.				1	7	7
,, Ditto per Excursion Secretary ..				2	13	4
,, Fees at Excursions				1	19	9
,, Subscription to National Trust				1	1	0
,, Ditto Somersetshire Archæological Society				1	1	0
,, Donation to Literary Institution.. ..				2	2	0
				41	6	8
,, Balance, Deposit at Parr's Bank..	£50	0	0			
,, ,, at Parr's Bank ..	40	4	3			
				90	4	3
				£131	10	11

Audited and found correct—ROBT. ISGAR.
22nd December, 1913.

THOS. S. BUSH, *Hon. Treasurer.*

Bath and District Branch

Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society.

1913.

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(* Are also Members of the Parent Society.)

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1911 *Adams E. Cay, Esq,, Brentwood, Combe Down.
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1913 Bigg Rev. G. Howard, 1, Belgrave Road, Grosvenor.
1903 *Blathwayt Lieutenant-Colonel Linley, F.L.S., F.Ent.S., Eagle House, Batheaston.
1903 Blathwayt Miss, Eagle House, Batheaston.
1904 *Blathwayt Rev. W. E., M.A., Dyrham Rectory, Chippenham.
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1909 Bockett-Pugh Mrs., Monckton House, Perrymead.
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1903 *Bush Thos. S., Esq., 20, Camden Crescent.
1903 Bush Mrs. Thos. S., 20, Camden Crescent.

1906 Casey Miss, 61, Combe Park.
1905 Cave Mrs., 20, Circus.
1912 Chope Mrs., 10, Mount Beacon.
1903 Clayton Colonel Emilius, Charlcombe Manor.
1903 Clayton Mrs., Charlcombe Manor.
1911 Colomb Mrs,, 17, Darlington Place.
1904 Cooke Miss M. A. H., Fir Cottage, Combe Down.
1912 Courtenay Miss, Montague House.
1912 Courtenay Miss E. F., Montague House.
1913 Cox Lieut.-Colonel, Fonthill, Lansdown.
1913 Cox Miss, Fonthill, Lansdown.
1911 Crossman Rev. C. D., St. Edith, Bathampton.
1911 Crossman Mrs., St. Edith, Bathampton.
1904 Curd Charles, Esq., 6, Gay Street.
1904 Curd Mrs., 6, Gay Street.
1913 Cuthbert Rev. G. S., 9, Forester Road.

1903 DAVIS Rev. J. ROLAND, M.A., Broughton Gifford Rectory.
1903 DAVIS Colonel T. ARNOLL, Weston Park House.
1912 DEASE PATRICK P., Esq., 6, Widcombe Crescent.
1912 DEASE Mrs., 6, Widcombe Crescent.

1904 EDWARDS Mrs., Combe Royal, Bathwick Hill.
1903 ELLACOMBE Rev. Canon, Bitton Vicarage Bristol.

1903 FERRARI Miss F. J., Batheaston House.
1912 FOSBERY Dr., 1, Oxford Row.
1911 FOXCROFT CHARLES T., Esq., Hinton Charterhouse.

1908 *GERVIS HENRY, Esq., M.D., F.S.A., 15, Royal Crescent.
1908 GERVIS Miss DORA L., 15, Royal Crescent.
1906 GOLDIE ROBERT F., Esq., South Lawn, Lansdown.
1910 GREGORY Mrs., Mount Beacon House.
1903 *GREGORY GEORGE, Esq., 5, Argyle Street.
1903 *GREY GERALD J., Esq., Collina House, Bathwick Hill.
1904 GREY Mrs., Collina House, Bathwick Hill.

1913 HAIGH Mrs. COURTNEY, Monkton House, Monkton Combe.
1905 HALLETT T. G. PALMER, Esq., M.A., Claverton Lodge, Bathwick.
1903 *HALLETT Mrs., Claverton Lodge, Bathwick.
1912 HAMILTON Miss, Glanworth, Sion Road.
1904 HEATHCOTE J. CUTHBERT, Esq., Brent Knoll Manor, Somerset.
1913 HODGES C. M., Esq., 9, George Street, Bathwick Hill.
1913 HOLMES THOMAS J., Esq., Eastern House, Beechen Cliff.
1903 *HORNE Rev. PERCY E., Downside Abbey.
1903 *HYLTON Right Hon. Lord, Ammerdown Park, Radstock.

1909 IRWIN Colonel T. A., Monkswold, Combe Down (Deceased).
1913 IRWIN Mrs. A., Fonthill, Lansdown.
1904 ISGAR ROBERT, Esq., Mendip Lodge, Bathwick Hill.

1913 JACKSON Miss, Glanworth, Lansdown.

1903 KEMEYS-TYNTE, ST. DAVID M., Esq., The Beeches, Bathwick Hill.
1903 KIRKWOOD Colonel HENDLEY P., Newbridge House.
1903 KNIGHT Miss J. F., The Limes, Lansdown.

1905 *LAWRENCE F. W., Esq., M.R.A.S., F.R.G.S., Hillcote, Lansdown.
1908 LAWRENCE Rev. G. HENRY, The Vicarage, Inglescombe.
1908 LEIGH Colonel P. P., C.I.E., Grosvenor House.
1910 LEIGH Mrs., Grosvenor House.
1913 LIGHT Lieut.-Colonel, Eddystone, Monkton Combe.
1913 LINLEY-HOWLDEN H., Esq., Old Manor House, Freshford.
1905 LONGLANDS Mrs., 18, Belmont.
1910 LONGWORTH-DAMES Miss C., 2, Sion Hill.

1904 MACHELL Mrs. L., 13, Park Street.
1908 MANTELL Mrs., The Elms, Bathampton.
1913 MASSY Miss, 2, Duke Street.
1913 MAULE Major-General, 2, Penn Lea, Newbridge Hill.
1906 MILLER THOMAS H., Esq.
1907 MILLER Mrs.
1913 MILSOM A. C., Esq., De Montalt, Combe Down
1913 MILSOM Mrs., De Montalt, Combe Down.

1913 Minchin Mrs. A. M., 15, Sion Hill.
1911 Monnington Alfred, Esq.. Tennyson Cottage, Park Lane.
1904 Morley Charles, Esq., Shockerwick House.
1909 Mules Rev. F. H., Ashton, Park Gardens.

1910 Nash Lieut.-Colonel, 7, Laura Place.
1910 Nash Mrs., 7, Laura Place.
1912 Newham Miss, 11, Raby Place, Bathwick.
1903 *Norman George, Esq., F.S.A.I., 12, Brock Street.
1907 Norman Mrs., 12, Brock Street.
1913 Norman Miss, Oakfield, Weston Park.

1903 Pagden Mrs., Batheaston House.
1912 Parry Hubert, Esq., Hillsborough, Beechen Cliff.
1913 Perks Rev. R. M., Court Essington, Midford.
1913 Phillimore J. E. Esq., Sedgley, Sion Road.
1904 *Pinckney A. B., Esq., The Orchard, Bathford.
1904 Pinckney Mrs., The Orchard, Bathford.
1904 Pitcairn Rev. D. Lee, M.A., Bushey House, Monkton Combe.
1904 Pitcairn Mrs., Bushey House, Monkton Combe.
1904 Pitman Ernest, Esq., Penn Hill.
1911 Pitt Mrs., 3, Lansdown Grove.
1913 Powell Rev. W. H., D.D., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1911 Powell Mrs. W. H., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1907 Pryce Ernest, Esq., 10, Cavendish Crescent.
1906 Pryce Mrs., 10, Cavendish Crescent
1913 Pryor Mrs., 2, Woodhill Place, Bathwick Hill.

1905 Reade Rev. Robert C. L., M.A., Charlcombe Rectory.
1905 Reade Mrs., Charlcombe Rectory.
1913 Riddell Miss, Monkton House, Monkton Combe.
1909 Rodman Miss, 17, The Tyning.
1904 *Rogers F. E., Esq., M.A., Hamilton House, Lansdown.
1906 Rogers Miss, 20, Somerset Place.
1903 Rolleston Colonel V., Saltford House, Bristol.
1903 Rolleston S. V., Esq., B.C.L., M.A., Saltford House, Bristol.
1911 Rose H. F., Esq., Glencairn, Pulteney Road.
1904 Russell Miss F. G., Fairfield, Newbridge Hill.

1904 Salmon Miss E. E., 26, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1904 Salmon Miss L. M., 30, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1913 Sanderson Miss, 28, Combe Park.
1913 Sanderson Miss A. V., 28, Combe Park.
1903 *Scott M. H., Esq., 5, Lansdown Place, West.
1910 Scott Mrs., 28, The Circus.
1913 Seaver Rev. J.
1908 Shickle Miss Mabel, 9, Cavendish Crescent.
1903 *Shum Frederick, Esq., F.S.A., 17, Norfolk Crescent.
1907 Shum F. E., Esq., 6, Bathwick Hill.
1903 *Sibbald G. E., Esq., Mount Pleasant, Norton St. Philip.
1903 Spender Miss, 34, Marlborough Buildings.
1905 Staight S. Neville, Esq., Battlefields.
1903 Stone Robert S., Esq., Bath and County Club.
1903 *Strachie Lord, Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol.
1911 Straghan Mrs., 26, Crescent Gardens.
1913 Strangways Miss, Shapwick, Somerset.
1912 Strangways Miss R. C., 6, Brunswick Place.

1904 Taylor A. J., Esq., 18, New Bond Street.
1903 *Thatcher A. A., Esq., Midsomer Norton.
1903 *Thomas C. E., Esq., 13, Queen Square.
1912 Tillard Mrs., 9, Marlborough Lane.
1903 *Tite Charles, Esq., Stoneleigh, Taunton.
1904 Todd Sidney, Esq., Beaumont, Lansdown.
1904 Tyte W., Esq., 7, Bloomfield Crescent.

1903 *Waldegrave Right Hon. the Earl, Chewton Priory.
1913 Walker Robert, Esq., M.R.G.S., Ormidale, Combe Down.
1910 Wardle F. D., Esq., Guildhall.
1905 Watson Mrs. Dominic, Bathampton House.
1904 Way Miss H. S., 12, Darlington Street,
1904 Wayne Miss F. C., Dale Cottage, Charlcombe.
1903 *Weaver Rev. F. W., M.A., F.S.A., Milton Clevedon Vicarage, Evercreech.
1903 Wheelwright Miss E. G.
1903 *Whittuck E. A., Esq., Claverton Manor.
1909 *Wickham Rev. J. D. C., M.A., Holcombe Manor.
1904 Williams D. Prout, Esq., 7, Belvedere.
1913 Wills J. H., Esq., The Paddox, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Mrs., The Paddox, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon
1913 Wills Stanley, Esq., 14, Royal Crescent.
1913 Wills Mrs., 14, Royal Crescent.
1903 *Winwood Rev. H. H., M.A., F.G.S., 11, Cavendish Crescent.
1908 Wood Miss Ellen, 38, Combe Park.
1913 Woods John C., Esq., Bank House, Trowbridge.
1912 Wynen Miss, Fairfield, Newbridge Hill.

1911 Young B. W., Esq., 1 Stanley Villas, Camden Road.

:: NOTES. ::

WELL SINKING ON LANSDOWN.

REV. H. H. WINWOOD, M.A., F.G.S.

THE water supply has of late assumed great importance, and a record of the sections passed through and the water bed struck is most useful for future reference. It has been my good fortune to have had the opportunity of watching the sinking of three wells on the high plateau of Lansdown during the last four years, and a request has been made that a summary of the work and its result should be given in this number of the Proceedings.

Lansdown, 780 ft. above Ordnance datum, consists of the upper beds of the Great Oolite, with a variable thickness of the clays of the Fuller's Earth, the up-bearing water bed whence the upper springs generally issue.

No. 1. The first sinking occurred on the Lansdown Golf Ground in 1908, a brief account of which was given in the "Geological Magazine" for 1909, p. 119—briefly, without details, the thickness of the Great Oolite passed through was 32 feet, succeeded by Fuller's Earth clays 25 feet; near the top of the latter a good supply of water was found—total depth 58 feet. The other two wells were commenced in 1912, and described in the Proceedings of the Cotteswold Nat. F.C., Vol. xviii., pt. 1, 1913, pp. 83-87.

No. 2. Sunk in the playing field of the Kingswood School, passed through 33 feet 6 inches of Great Oolite, to the Fuller's Earth, where water was found either just above or just below a hard blue shaly bed 1 ft. 6 inches, called by the sinkers the "cement bed." The blue clay was further pierced to a depth of 22 feet.

No. 3. Perhaps the most interesting section of all was that at "Grove Farm," near Charlcombe Grove. This well was sunk at the N.E. edge of the plateau at a level of 713 feet

No. 1.

Fissile Beds

Thick, coarsely Oolitic Beds

Bottom Bed exposed

Total thickness 13·5 feet.

HAMMER,

GREAT OOLITE SECTION, LANSDOWN.

THE HAMMER RESTING ON THE LAST BED EXPOSED.

above Ordnance datum. At the last visit paid in August of this year the sinkers stated that they had passed through 84 feet of blue Fuller's Earth clay, the thickness of the Great Oolite beds on the top being about 11 feet. This corresponds fairly well with a measured section about 200 yards off on the same ridge in a Great Oolite quarry formerly worked, showing a thickness of about 13 feet. Water was found as usual at the junction of the Great Oolite and Fuller's Earth, but not being thought sufficient a boring was carried down further and progress hindered by too much water.

The average thickness of the Great Oolite on Lansdown may be taken as 25 feet. When we compare this with the same beds 600 feet O.D. across the valley, a remarkable variation in thickness and character of the stone is seen. Lonsdale, a former Curator of the Literary and Scientific Institution, whose MS. is now in the Library and whose knowledge of the geology of the district has been unsurpassed, gives the total thickness of the Great Oolite at the Box quarries as 78 feet. H. B. Woodward, of the H.M.S. Geological Survey, gives 125 feet as the maximum. Both agree as to the thickness of the fine-grained building beds as 17 feet. So far for the variation in thickness. The texture of the beds also vary very much, the 17 feet of fine-grained building stone is absent on Lansdown, and only represented by one or two thin Oolitic beds unworkable for building purposes, and associated with other coarse grained Oolitic beds called by the workmen "Bastard Freestone," only useful for rough work in walls, &c.

The two photographs reproduced in these notes illustrate the remarkable differences in the strata on the north and south side of the Avon valley. No. 1 represents a section taken from a quarry on the north-eastern escarpment of Lansdown. No. 2 is a photograph of the entrance to the Westwood quarries on the south side of the Avon, which Mr. Sturge Cotterell has kindly allowed me to reproduce. The fine Oolitic workable beds, 17 feet thick, are seen here to extend from the base to the roof; the entrance showing where they have been worked out between the lower and upper "Rags"—as the coarser beds are called. On the Lansdown side apparently only the lower "Rags" are represented, the fine workable beds and the upper "Rags" being absent. How can this be explained? The late Charles Moore accounted for it by the theory of a fault which he considered ran through the valley, lowering one side more than the other, the deposits on the lower side being thicker than those on the other; but there are difficulties arising from this view which can hardly

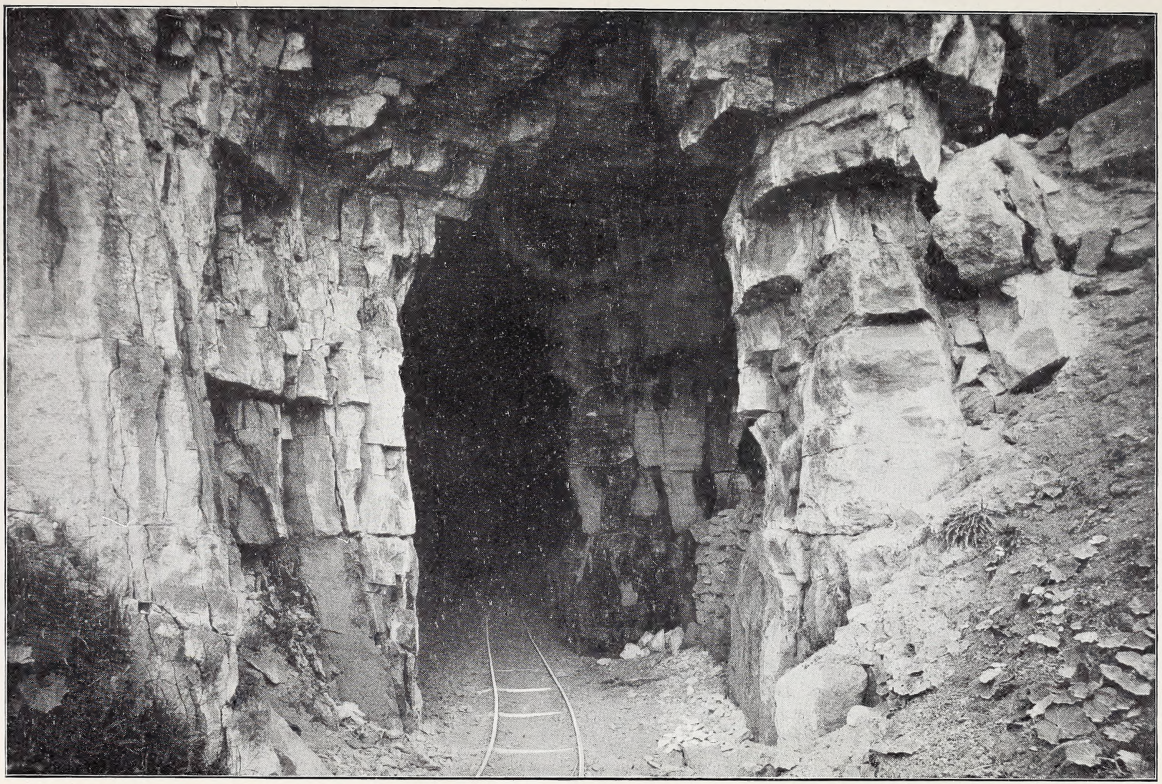
explain the contrast. The other reason suggested for the difference in thickness is the general dip of the strata south-east, but the Great Oolite on Lansdown is nearly horizontal, the dip being scarcely perceptible and the distance between the two sections N. and S. so small as to present some doubt as to the dip accounting for the variation in the thickness of the strata. This must be left for some future Bath geologist to work out. These notes conclude with an acknowledgment of the thanks of the writer for the facilities afforded him during his observations, from the authorities of the Lansdown Golf Ground; from Mr. Workman of the Kingswood School; and from Mr. Collins, owner of Charlcombe Grove Farm; and also from the Cotteswold Nat. Field Club for the loan of the block for photograph No. 1. My thanks also are due to Mr. Sturge Cotterell for the use of photograph No. 2.

RARE BIRDS IN SOMERSET.

MR. ST. DAVID KEMEYS-TYNTE.

During the excursions to Priston and Buckland Dinham Mr. St. David Kemeys-Tynte read the two following interesting papers. At Priston, he said, it has been suggested on more than one occasion by various members of this Society that it would be interesting to have more natural history thrown into our proceedings than has hitherto been the case, and more especially as our Society is not only an archæological one, but a natural history one also. The opportunity therefore occurs to me of giving you, with your permission, some account of a bird, rare to Somersetshire, which was killed in this parish of Priston very many years ago; and as the fact has not been recorded in the Proceedings of the "Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society," I think it may be of interest to make a note of it in the Proceedings of our "Bath and District Branch" of the Parent Society. The bird was a Skua (not spelt like the kitchen skewer), but S-k-u-a, and now known as "Richardson's Skua." My knowledge of the circumstance came about in this way. Several years ago when at Torquay, Colonel Glossop, a gentleman residing there, informed me that many years previously, when living in Somersetshire, he had shot

No. 2.



ENTRANCE TO GREAT OOLITE QUARRY, WESTWOOD, ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE AVON

two rare birds there which he had had stuffed, and would be pleased to show me. I accordingly called upon him, and Colonel Glossop, who before removing to Torquay, had for some years resided at Inwood, in the parish of Henstridge (which is in the extreme S.E. of this county on the borders of Dorsetshire), showed me the birds. The first he described as a Black-toed Gull *(Larus crepidatus)*, as mentioned in Bewick's "British Birds," which he had shot at Priston in 1851; the other a Honey Buzzard, which he shot at Henstridge in 1853; but it is with the former we are now concerned, and I find from the books on ornithology which I possess that since Bewick's day the Black-toed Gull is always described and recognised as "Richardson's Skua." It may be asked how Colonel Glossop came to shoot it here at Priston? I think that he was related to the then Rector of this parish, the Rev. John Hammond (who, by the way, was father of the late Mr. Anthony Hammond, a former Mayor of Bath, whom perhaps some of you may remember), and no doubt it was whilst on a visit to the Rector that Colonel Glossop shot this Skua. There appear to have been four species of Skua which have been met with in these isles, viz., the Common Skua, the Pomerine Skua, Richardson's Skua, and Buffon's Skua, so named after the celebrated French naturalist. I suppose that Richardson's Skua is named after Sir John Richardson, M.D., the naturalist and Arctic explorer, who published "Zoology of the Voyage of the Erebus and Terror" (1844-47), and who accompanied the "Arctic Searching Expedition" for Sir John Franklin in 1851, and published an account of it under that title, but none of the ornithological works I have consulted give the reason for it. The Skuas, though allied to the gulls, are not true gulls. They are extraordinarily swift on the wing, and are very formidable to the gulls, terns, and kittiwakes, which they follow, and when they see them capture a fish pursue and attack them, and make them disgorge it, and then rapidly seize the fish before it reaches the water. For this reason they have acquired the name of the robber bird—*lestris*. The late Mr. Cecil Smith in his "Birds of Somersetshire" (1869) says of the four British Skuas he could only bring two actually into Somersetshire. Yarrell mentions one of them, the Common Skua, as having been taken on the Severn, but does not say in what part; the other was an immature specimen of Richardson's Skua, obtained at Weston-super-Mare, and that was the only instance he knew of its occurrence in the County. I have therefore thought it worth while to place on record the circumstance of this one having been shot in this parish. Since Mr. Cecil Smith's book was published four more specimens of

Richardson's Skua have fallen victims in this County, for a fine adult bird was shot at Clevedon in December, 1873, and three (one adult and two young) at Stolford, near Bridgwater, in the autumn of 1892, as recorded by the Rev. Murray A. Matthew in his paper, "A Revised List of the Birds of Somerset," in the Proceedings of our Parent Society for 1893. He, too, in revising Mr. Cecil Smith's work, was unaware of this specimen shot at Priston.

At Buckland Dinham Mr. Kemeys-Tynte remarked that a former Vicar of this parish, the late Rev. Murray Alexander Mathew, was a well-known ornithologist, and was joint author of "The Birds of Devon," published in 1892, and also of "The Birds of Pembrokeshire," of which latter County he thought he was a native. Previously to his presentation to the living of Buckland Dinham he had been Vicar of Bishop's Lydeard, in the western division of this County, in which parish the late Mr. Cecil Smith, author of "The Birds of Somersetshire," resided, and doubtless Mr. Mathew acquired his interest in ornithology from that gentleman. Mr. Kemeys-Tynte continued: As I remarked in a previous paper which I read to you at Priston on our previous excursion, Mr. Mathew contributed "A Revised List of the Birds of Somerset" to the "Proceedings of the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society" for 1893, in which he brought the number of species of birds recorded by Mr. Smith as having been met with in this County from 227 to a total number of 257. But what will interest those to-day who, like myself, are interested in bird life generally, will be what Mr. Mathew tells us of some birds rare to Somerset which he had met with in the localities through which we shall presently be passing. The first is the golden oriole, which he records as having been seen in Orchardleigh Park, but he unfortunately omits to give us the date, or to state whether seen on more than one occasion. This beautiful bird, which is about the size of a blackbird, is of a brilliant yellow except the wings and tail, which are black. It is a summer migrant on the Continent, but rare in this country, though there are two or three instances recorded of its having nested here. This bird is pretty freely distributed in other parts of the Globe, as it is found in Asia, Africa and North and South America. I saw a specimen shot in the province of Santa Fé, in Argentina, when I was there in 1870-71. In the United States this bird is also known as the Baltimore Oriole, its colour being of the same hue as the livery (yellow and black) of the Earls of Baltimore, who possessed a large tract of territory in that country. The next bird that Mr. Mathew refers to as having been met with in this locality,

though generally uncommon in this County, is the tufted duck. This bird, also known as the black widgeon, is so called from a tuft of a few black feathers dependent from the back of its head. Mr. Mathew says: "We have seen tufted ducks at the end of April on the lake in Orchardleigh Park, where no fowl are kept, and very probably a few remain occasionally to nest." This bird is a frequenter of Lapland, Finland, Norway and Sweden, coming southwards to warmer climes before Winter. In the parish of Norton St. Philip, to which we are coming later, Mr. Mathew gives an interesting account of how he fell in with a flock of sand grouse. These singular-looking birds inhabit Southern Europe, Africa and Asia, but were unknown in this country until in 1863 large flocks of them suddenly appeared here, though none are reported to have visited Somerset. "There was a still larger incursion of them in 1888," Mr. Mathew states, "when several were seen in this County, and some few shot." Mr. Mathew continues: "One day towards the end of June (in this same year, 1888, I presume, for he does not give it), when driving to Bath, we passed close to a flock of about twenty; they were in a turnip field, where the young turnips were just showing above the ground, and were about a long gunshot in from the hedge. The greater number were squatting on the ground apparently asleep; one or two were preening their feathers and occasionally stretching themselves. We looked for them again as we repassed the spot in the afternoon—it was in the parish of Norton St. Philip—but they had disappeared."

With those of our party who combine a love of natural history with archæology I trust that these few ornithological notes may find favour, and that on resuming our journey they will keep their eyes open on the chance of seeing golden orioles, tufted ducks, and sandgrouse!

OLD FLIGHT OF STEPS, BATH ABBEY.

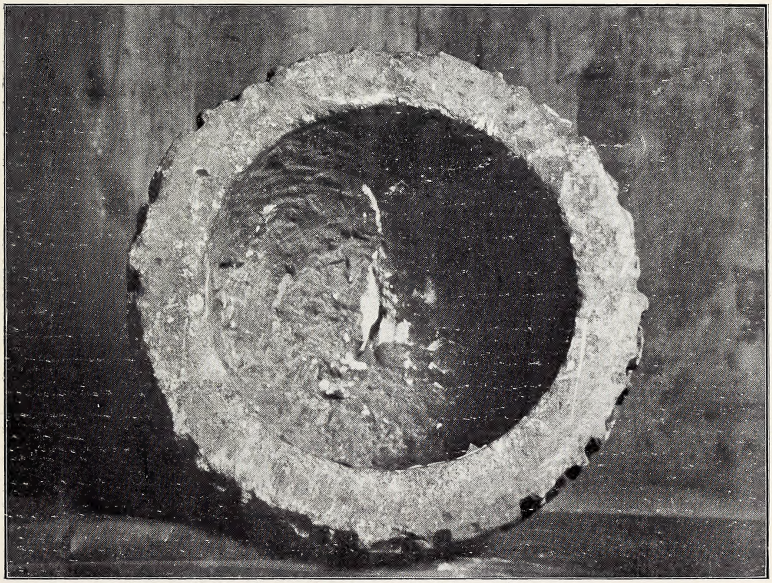
REV. PREBENDARY BOYD, B.C.L.

In the course of alterations in the north transept made this summer in connection with the re-construction of the Abbey organ, the moulded jamb of a doorway coeval with the present building was discovered in the east wall of the transept at about three yards inward from the north aisle. Under the direction of Sir Thomas Jackson, Bart., R.A., the doorway was cleared of the rubble with which it had been stopped and gradually nine steps were disclosed, descending sharply from the floor of the transept through the thickness of the wall to the level of the foundation of the present church. There was no trace of any floor or paving nor any indication of a chamber beyond the fact that there was a projecting mass of masonry on the left at the base of the steps, and corresponding to this was a skewback on the church side for the arch to rest upon, which must have formed the external portal to the stairway. A store-room being badly needed at the Abbey Church, an underground chamber has now been constructed of brick for this purpose, but care has been taken to leave the original portions of stone untouched.

VASE FOUND IN THE AVON.

F. D. WARDLE, Town Clerk.

The stone vase or urn, of which illustrations are given, was found at Bath on the 4th May, 1913, in the course of the sewerage operations now proceeding in and about the city. The contractors were laying a sewer under the River Avon nearly opposite Little Corn Street (about 250 yards below the Old Bridge), and they came across the vase towards the middle of the river and seven feet below the river bed. The vase has been cut out of one piece of Bath stone and has a fairly smooth exterior, but the interior is very roughly hewn. It will be noted that the familiar Greek key pattern surrounds the top of the vase. A small circular orifice pierces the lower part of



Photos Mr. A. H. Hopkins

VASE FOUND IN THE RIVER AVON.

the vase, having a diameter of about 1 inch. The height of the vase is $15\frac{3}{4}$ inches, the thickness of the stone at the top $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the width of the vase across the top (excluding the ornamentation) 20 inches, and including the ornamentation on each side 21 inches. The vase suffered injury in the process of excavation, the workmen engaged evidently preferring to cut through the obstacle, if possible, rather than go round it. A deep incision was made on one side, but without piercing the vase, and a considerable piece was broken away, apparently by levering the pick through the orifice.

When the vase was discovered hopes were entertained, having regard to the depth at which it was found below the river, that a Roman origin might be assigned to the discovery. Detailed examination does not, however, support that hope to any considerable extent. The bed of the river at the point where the vase was discovered is very loose, and no doubt constantly alters in depth owing to the scouring action of the floods and possibly also in consequence of the rubbish which from time to time gets into the river. No great importance, therefore, can be attached to the depth at which it was found. The key pattern is considerably worn in places, pointing to age and exposure, but the stone is a soft variety of Bath stone, and rough usage, coupled with the action of water and the weather, would be sufficient in a century or so to produce the appearance now presented. Furthermore, the smoother portion of the vase shows distinct traces of the implement termed "the drag" used by masons for producing a smooth effect on stone. This implement was not employed by the Romans.

The Bath Corporation had the good fortune to enlist the expert aid of Sir Hercules Read, LL.D., President of the Society of Antiquaries, who visited Bath in July last. After examination of the vase and consideration of the circumstances connected with its discovery, Sir Hercules gave it as his opinion that the vase must be assigned to the 18th century and that it was probably intended purely for ornamentation, the orifice at the bottom being used in connection with its attachment to a pedestal or other base. He also thought that possibly the vase would originally possess a cover. It will be noted that the lower end of the vase is sufficiently flattened to enable it to stand upright.

The photographs are by Mr. A. Hopkins, Bath.

DISCOVERIES NEAR ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.

ALFRED J. TAYLOR, M.S.A.

During the latter part of June, and in the course of the work in connection with the new sewage scheme, it became necessary for a sinking to be made in the centre of the road about 40 feet south and slightly east of St. Michael's Church, and opposite Messrs. Horton's premises in Northgate Street. A shaft was sunk in size about 7 feet by 5 feet and running lengthwise north and south. At a depth of about 8 feet 8 inches from the road surface a pitched paving was encountered, formed of cobbles, in shape something like an egg, in size averaging about 8 inches by 4 inches, laid in upright positions. This pitching was broken through and at a depth of about 2 feet below it, paving was found. The paving was of pennant and 1½ inches thick, and as far as could be ascertained the stones averaged in size about 2 feet square. Below the pennant paving was 4 inches of gravel, and then 4 inches of rough stone, which latter was laid upon the blue clay. The paving covered the whole bottom of the shaft, and doubtless extended further. From the shaft the sewage contractors had to drive a heading in a south-easterly direction and at a distance of about 10 feet from the shaft, and on the same level as the paving a portion of a stone drain was discovered running from north-east to south-west. This drain was formed in single blocks of Bath stone about 2 feet wide by 1 foot deep, with a channel worked in the stone about 1 foot wide by 6 inches deep, and about 6 feet in length was found. A portion of the pennant paving was found just overlapping the channel of the drain. There was no cover to the drain and apparently at one time it had been a surface drain. The sewage shaft was continued to a still further depth, and about 18 inches below the paving, in the blue clay, four Roman coins were found which belong to the reign of Vespasian, and may be described as follows:—

DESCRIPTION OF COINS.

No. 1. **Bright brass.** Laureated head of Vespasian.

Obv.—IMP. CAESAR VESPASIANUS AUG. Cos. VIII. P.P.

Rev.—Draped female figure with buckler (S.C.) and a ring with S.P.Q.R.

No 2. **Same head as No. 1.**

Obv.—. . . CAESAR VESPASIANUS AUG.

Rev.—AEQUITAS (AUGUSTI). Equity standing with scales.

(One of the commonest types).

Both found on June 17th.

No. 3. **Bright brass.** Head banded, not laureated.

Obv.—IMP. CAESAR VESPASIANUS AUG. Cos. III. . . . .

Rev.—VICTORI . . . . Draped figure looking towards right. S.C.

No. 4. **Dull brass.** Same head as No. 1.

Obv. & *Rev.*—Same as No. 1.

(Both 2nd brass).

Vespasian, tenth of the twelve Caesars, born A.D. 7, died 79, reigned 69-79.

Found on June 19, together with fragments of Roman tile and pottery vessels.

All the coins were in a very fine state of preservation and are now in the possession of the Town Clerk.

It is somewhat interesting to mention that in the course of alterations to Messrs. Alfred Taylor's premises, New Bond Street, in progress at about the same time, similar work to the pitched paving was found over a considerable area between the rear of the New Bond Street premises, and the Upper Borough Walls, and at a depth of about 10 feet from the level of the last named street.

The writer does not advance any opinion as to the origin or purpose of these two pavings, but Mr. Richard Mann in a letter to the Bath papers of June 20th, 1913, put forward an extremely interesting suggestion that they are probably portions of the old Fosse Road and "may be regarded as work of about eighteen centuries ago."

Later on another sinking was carried out close to and about north-west of the above, where the foundation of the previous Church was met with.

ROMAN OR MEDIÆVAL ROAD.

THOS. S. BUSH.

In the Proceedings for 1904 are a few notes under the above heading. As that number is out of print it seems advisable to give the purport of them and so lead up to notes on a late discovery: "In March, 1904, the Rev. H. H. Winwood and the writer inspected two openings that had been made at the east end of Claverton Street. In one was found a 'sett' of stones and in the other a bed of concrete 6 inches thick at 4 feet from the surface, and below this a similar 'sett' to that in the first opening. Some of the stones were Lias, others Oolite; they measured 3ins. in width by 9ins. in depth; all were worn smooth and slightly rounded on the upper face. Mr. Young, Waterworks Engineer to the Corporation, informed us that similar pitching had been met with a few yards further east. It has been suggested that the concrete formed the bed of Ralph Allen's tramroad that led from his quarries on Combe Down to the wharf near where is now the canal basin." The writer, having received in January, 1911, a permit from Mr. Radford, engineer to the sewage scheme, to view the works to see any objects that may be found, has visited them many times, but has not been able to gather either from personal inspection or from many inquiries of foremen and others that anything of antiquarian interest has come to light, unless the discovery during the last week of November can be so classed. It should be mentioned that Roman coins and others of later periods have been found in several places. At the end of November the writer, on being informed that in opening the road (part of the sewage scheme) at the east end of Claverton Street at the foot of Widcombe Hill and a few yards in front of Ye Olde White Hart Hotel, similar pitching had been met with at about 8ft. from the surface, visited the site at once with the hope of seeing the pitching in place, but was disappointed, the stones having been removed and placed with the rubble on the surface, in fact the ground had been cleared out for about 4 feet below. The trench was timbered on either side, completely hiding the pitching, presuming any was left, which seems probable, and so joined up with that mentioned above. The foreman could not say much about it, but he thought it was at a depth of 8 ft. Was this pitching of Roman construction? Scarth in "Aquæ Solis," Vol. 2, remarks that the great lines of Roman roads are clearly ascertained, but the Vicinal roads, of which there

were doubtless many, have disappeared. On page 110 he says another road seems to have passed up Bathwick Hill. In the field to the north of the present road to Claverton were formerly traces of an old road which pointed direct to the Ferry at Warleigh. The road from the Ferry to the Dry Arch is known by the peasants as the old Roman road, and can be traced to Monkton Farley, beyond which it fell into the Roman road to Marlborough and Silchester. In our Proceedings, Vol. 1 pp., 108 and 150, Mr. Gerald Grey records cuttings being made across the road, in the field mentioned above to the north of Claverton Road, also a continuation of it in the village of Claverton, as well as in a field below the village which adjoins the river, a short distance above the Ferry. In the last-named, fragments of Roman pottery and a coin of Constantine the Great were unearthed. The writer suggests there was a Roman road up Widcombe Hill, not altogether on the line of the present road, possibly passing through Smallcombe Wood, thence on to Claverton Down, joining there the one referred to above. He would further suggest that there was a Roman road from Claverton Street traversing nearly due west. Clearly there must have been a road in that direction. To mention only a few evidences: the finding of Roman coffins at Twerton; Roman villa in the parish of Newton St. Loe, which was cut through when the Great Western Railway was constructed; and a Roman villa at Brislington discovered a few years back. These suggestions are thrown out with the view to eliciting information.

The above notes were in type when, on January 13th, 1914, the discovery of a stone coffin with skeleton in Prior Park Road was notified. When cutting a trench in connection with the Sewage Works at about 62 yards from the front of the Old White Hart Hotel, and at a depth of 7ft. 8in. from the present surface and about one foot below the old surface, the cover of a coffin was exposed. This cover, in two parts, is about 6ft. long, 2ft. 4in. wide, and 10½in. thick. The coffin, which lay in blue clay about S. and N., the head to the N., is 5ft. 10½in. long, 1ft. 8in. wide at head, 1ft. 10in. at the shoulders, and 1ft. 9in. at end, all in the clear; 1ft. 3in. to 1ft. deep inside, the bottom 7in. thick, and the sides 2½ to 3in. thick, the ends square. Mr. Wright, jun., has kindly favoured me with these particulars. When opened, water and clay were inside. The skull lay at the foot of the coffin, the bones much decayed and broken. As it would take some time to clean the remains, and so be able to give more definite information, it was decided, in view of the delay thus caused in the issue of these "Proceedings," not to wait for this to be done.

SUMMARY OF THE LANSDOWN EXPLORATIONS, 1905-1912.

THOS. S. BUSH.

Full reports* of the explorations with a list of the "finds," including coins, have been published each year, yet it seems doubtful if many have been able to follow the work from the beginning to the present time, hence a summary might be appreciated.

Accompanying these notes is a Plan shewing all the sites where excavations have been carried out and the date of the same, commencing with the year 1905 and concluding with the present year. It has been deemed advisable to publish this Plan, not only for the purpose of these notes, but more especially to show any explorers of the future what has been done, and so stop them from going over the same ground.

The greater part of the work has been on the property of the late Rev. W. T. Blathwayt, and after his death that of his son, Robert Blathwayt, Esq., to whom we have been greatly indebted for permission to explore; we have also to thank Sir A. W. Lawrence, Bart., and Mr. Arthur Williams, who readily gave permission, and also the various tenants, Messrs. Banks, Kelson, Gibbs, Hendy, Alvis, Alway, and Wadman.

The work throughout has been under the supervision of the Rev. H. H. Winwood, Mr. Gerald J. Grey and the writer; for several years Mr. A. K. Cuninghame rendered useful assistance and during the last two years General Bradshaw. In June, 1905, preliminary explorations were undertaken in "Little Down Field," the second field east of the Grenville Monument, the result being satisfactory. Arrangements were

*Copies of these Reports may be obtained from Mr. Thos. S. Bush, price 9d. each; the proceeds will be placed to the Exploration Fund.

made to continue the work, a fund having been started for that purpose; in fact an appeal has been made yearly with gratifying results. In September, 1905, a thorough exploration of the above field was commenced and continued in the spring and autumn of the years 1906 and 1907. In May, 1908, the work was brought to a conclusion. With the Report for 1907 is given a plan of the field showing all the trenches, buildings, walls, hut circles and sites of coffins. Almost at the commencement of the excavations there was evidence of habitation in the finding part of a pilaster; other parts were found later on, then a building of two rooms was discovered, followed by others, also walls in several places that had been previously disturbed; in one place there was a wall, probably of British construction, under a Roman wall, in two others there was evidence of pre-Roman occupation in the finding of British pottery, &c. Apart from this it may be said that all the finds gave evidence of Roman occupation, and, if we may judge by the coins, about 250 in all, it must have covered a considerable period, the earliest coin being Antoninus Pius (138-161), and the latest Arcadius (394-408). We may go back a few centuries earlier, as a British coin was discovered in one of the buildings. A considerable quantity of shards of pottery was unearthed in all the trenches, but with the exception of samples, especially of Samian ware, the whole was replaced during the filling-in. Amongst a great variety of relics were bronze fibulæ, tweezers, armlet, finger rings, bowl of spoon, padlock, and a fine circular brooch with mosaic setting; of iron, fibulæ, styli, knives, axe, sickle, key, horse and pony's shoes, hob-nails, cleats, and many nails of various sizes; of stone, head of a woman, pilasters (as mentioned above), parts of querns, whetstones, quartzite rubbers, flint scrapers, flat pennant stones for floors, and many parts of white lias moulds, which have aroused much interest, and amongst many miscellaneous finds were bone pins, spindle whorls, small pieces of glass, worked bones, slag, &c. Seven stone coffins with stone covers were unearthed; each contained a skeleton, one that of a female, the others males. A male skeleton was also unearthed, and human skulls and bones in a heap, possibly disturbed at some time and buried together. A wall in this field was followed into the adjoining one on the west and a few trenches cut. Close to the boundary wall the skeleton of a woman buried face downwards was discovered without a coffin; the skull was protected by stones arched over it. The tenant not wishing further digging in the last-named field, work on that site was brought to a conclusion in May, 1908.

It may here be stated that in this field, as well as throughout the excavations on Lansdown, the depth of turf and soil was 6 to 8 inches, then rubble, the loose rock overlying the bed rock being about 18 inches below the surface. It was rather the exception that digging had to be carried deeper, but these exceptions generally proved of interest, as for instance a long ditch had been cut to a depth of 6 feet 9 inches; in the lower part of the infilling were shards of British pottery, bones of Bos Longifrons (an extinct animal) and two tynes of red deer. Another instance may be mentioned where black soil (the soil of the Downs being a reddish coloured loam) extended to a depth of 2 feet; near the bottom with small bits of pottery, etc., were grains of wheat. Of course in following out walls of buildings it was usually necessary to dig deeper, and in all cases as regards coffins the rock had been cut away to admit of their being placed at a sufficient depth. In June, 1908, two small low mounds in the Race Field were opened. In one were a few small bits of British pottery, calcined bones and flints. The other proved a blank; both appeared to have been previously disturbed. In the same field three cuttings were made across what was once a road running in the direction of Northstoke, taking a line through the present Grand Stand. Nothing was met with to give a clue to its date. In the same month a long Barrow in the adjoining field called "Fairfield" was opened. At the east end of it a male skeleton without a coffin was brought to light, and at the west end there was a quantity of bones broken into very small pieces, and parts of a cinerary urn, also parts of what is considered to be an incense cup.

In September, 1908, a Barrow within a few yards of the last-named was explored and proved very interesting. It was about 7 feet high and 38 feet diameter, and built up entirely of fairly large stones, such as are generally met with scattered about near the surface on this Down, with a layer of soil over the whole. Naturally some soil had percolated down amongst the stones after so many centuries. Below the centre a bowl-shaped depression had been cut in the rock; in this were human bones, some fractured, others not so; there were two teeth, but neither skull nor jaw. On the north-west side of the Barrow was a wall built round it for about one-fourth of its circumference. On this wall, partly protected by stones placed round them, were two earthen vessels close together containing calcined bones. Having completed the examination of these Barrows they were restored to their original form—in fact throughout the work this has been strictly adhered to. Following this two trenches were cut through the bank and

ditch of a nearly square camp marked Roman on the Ordnance Maps, on the left of the Lansdown Road within about one-fourth of a mile from the Grenville Monument. No relics were unearthed.

April-May, 1909. On the north-eastern slope of Lansdown, about three-fourths of a mile east of the Grenville Monument, are two mounds, Twin Barrows, standing east and west, and 69 feet apart, centre to centre. (Sections accompanying the Report, 1909, show their construction.) The one to the west was first opened. At $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep was a thick layer of burnt material and bones, covering a surface of 36 square feet; below this the stones were much reddened by fire. The bones were small and too much burnt to determine whether they were human or animal, but as the jaw of a sheep and a pig and tooth of ox were found in the Barrow it was clear these denoted animal sacrifices. At 6 feet deep in the East Barrow, on undisturbed ground, lay the remains of a human cremation—a heap of small bits of bone, one tooth, and many parts of a human skull. A few shards of black pottery were discovered, but not a complete cinerary urn. The East Barrow, therefore, was raised over a human burial, and the West over the site of a sacrificial feast. From the West Barrow 177 flints were gathered, and from the other 20. The Rev. H. H. Winwood examined and classified them. Amongst them were scrapers, arrow heads and borers ; the majority were flakes or chips. He adds that flint pebbles, from which these implements have been formed, are not met with in this locality.

July, 1909, and June, 1910. Some years back a coffin with skeleton was discovered in the grounds of the Rectory, Langridge. Close by is a field called " Stoneham Down," in which are several banks that appeared to be artificial. In one of the banks that was cut through were shards of pottery, flint chips and pennant stones with burnt material attached to them. (Pennant is not to be met with within four miles of this site.) Shards of pottery were also picked up in the trenches. In June, 1910, further and more complete examination of this field was undertaken ; a total of 1,450 feet of trenches were cut. One of the banks, 8 feet wide, was made up of rubble and many large stones. In this was part of a colander, with other pottery, and teeth of horse and sheep. Clearing round an upright stone, large flat stones were revealed, apparently a floor, but no walls were discovered. On this was a bit of Samian ware and shards of pottery, also an iron knife and buckle. The trenches produced, blade of a knife,

iron nails, metal slag, pottery and small worked pennant stones. The only coin discovered was a Dupondius of the Emperor Trajan, A.D. 98-117.

September and October, 1909. In a field on the west side of Lansdown Road, at about 400 yards N.W. of Beckford Tower, is a low mound marked Tumulus on the Ordnance Maps. At present it is only about one foot above the surrounding ground ; no doubt reduced in height by many years' ploughing. The Tumulus, which is about 72 feet diameter, was entirely opened, resulting in 27 cremations on the south of the centre, and to the north-west the bones of a man without coffin were brought to light. The bones were somewhat scattered and many missing ; the skull, part of the jaw, leg, and other broken bones were intermingled with burnt bones, which appears to show it was intended to cremate the body. With reference to the cremations, in a few cases the burnt bones were in urns, then stones laid round them forming a rude cyst, with a covering stone. In the majority of cases the bones were placed in a bowl-shaped depression formed of stones, with a stone over them. Some 70 flints were found scattered about, but none of especial note.

March, 1910. At a corner where three parishes meet—Weston, Bitton and Cold Ashton—is a mound at the east end of Beach Wood. Cutting into it proved that it was not a burial mound, but thrown up during quarrying operations close by. In filling-in the trenches an interesting silver coin in good preservation was met with, viz., of King Athelstan, A.D. 925-940. On the obverse is EDELSTAN . REX . TO . BIT ; on the reverse EDRED . MO . SCRB. Added interest is attached to this coin in that it was found at the corner of Cold Ashton, a parish the King granted to the Abbey of Bath in A.D. 931.

July, 1910. Close to Soper's Farm House, in "Twenty-four Acre Field," is a low bank with ditch, about 220 yards long. For 100 yards it is parallel to a wall at 39 feet from it, then slopes off to the corner of the field on the S.W. It proved to be artificial, but no relics were recovered to fix its date.

May-June, 1911. In the Race Field, at the highest (780 feet) elevation on the Down, are two Barrows, one at about 280 yards from the Grand Stand, the other about 168 yards from the first. The first is 21 inches above the surrounding ground and the second 18 inches ; their diameters respectively

38 and 43 feet from centre to centre of ditch. Near the centre of the second Barrow were two circular walls, one 4 feet diameter inside, the other 3 feet, the two forming the figure 8. Clearing out the soil down to the rock, a depth of 2ft. 2ins., no relics were discovered. Outside these walls was one leading from them that had evidently been disturbed. At 4 feet north of the centre of the Barrow, under a large stone, lay a quantity of bones of Bos Longifrons, which seems to show that here was a sacrifice.

The other Barrow had no doubt been dug into, as two bronze ornaments identified as of the 15th century were mixed up with burnt bones and shards of British pottery, One cremation was discovered. The burnt bones lay in a depression formed of stones, similar to those recorded in 1909; apparently there were at least two further cremations but the bones were scattered.

June, 1911. A mound, 54 feet long, at 100 yards south of the Grenville Monument, yielded a variety of articles, flints, bits of Roman pottery, and the bowl of a tobacco pipe, perhaps 100 years old. Possibly the mound was thrown up during the alteration in the road early last century.

September, 1911. Within the British Camp which stands above Northstoke are two Tumuli, at least so marked on the Ordnance Map. Mr. Trice Martin opened the one to the south in 1904, which proved a blank. The one to the north was almost a blank, no sign of a burial. A few small bits of British pottery and flints, including three scrapers, was the only result of the excavations. In the ditch outside the Camp there appeared to be a well; this we cleared out for a depth of 7 feet, about 15 feet below ground level, and touched solid rock. A few animal bones lay near the bottom in damp soil. Of more interest was the exploring the undoubted site of a house just below the north end of the Vallum of the Camp. Walls were traced but could not be pieced together owing to previous disturbance. Amongst the relics unearthed were bronze armlet, handle of hair-pin, fibula and tweezer, four iron fibulæ, part of bowl of Samian ware with design in relief, bone pins, &c.

September, 1912. "Twelve Acres Field," Upper Langridge Farm. Soon after starting work here a wall was struck; following this a building of three rooms was developed, two measured 17 feet 9 inches by 20 feet 2 inches, and the third 11 feet 2 inches by 20 feet 2 inches all in the clear, the outer walls 1 foot 10 inches thick. The relics discovered in

this field, mainly in the building, included 3 bronze coins, Claudius I. (A.D. 41-54), Gallus (251-253), and Postumus (259-269) ; bronze and iron fibulæ, many pieces of Samian ware, part of colander, saucers and other pottery, spindle-whorl, parts of querns, pounders, &c.

The result of this year's work is given with this Report, pages 253 to 257.

All the "finds," including about 260 coins, have been very kindly presented by the various owners (mentioned at the beginning of these notes) to the Museum of the Literary and Scientific Institution, Bath. They have been arranged in nine cases in the Large Hall of the Institution, and form an extremely interesting collection of local antiquities.

TWELVE ACRES FIELD, 1913.

Explorations continued from 1912.

THOS. S. BUSH.

At the end of the Summary of the Explorations on Lansdown (page 251), is a brief account of the excavations in this field in 1912, and in the Report for that year a detailed account is given. For permission to carry out the work last year, and renewed this, we have to thank Robert Blathwayt, Esq., who has always most readily allowed us to excavate on any part of his property on the Down. We have also to thank the tenant, Mr. Wadman, not only for giving us leave to dig but for keeping cattle out of the field while the work was in progress, thus relieving us of the risk of an animal damaging itself in the trenches. On Saturday, August 16th, we pegged out a line for the first trench from near the north end of the field (where are some low banks which looked to be artificial, and we hoped would be productive) to the corner at the south.

Having arranged, as last year, with Mr. Hopkins to engage men and to give a general supervision, work was started on Friday, August 23rd, six men being employed. The Plan accompanying these notes shows the trenches cut this year, marked 1913. All were started at a width of 2½ feet and then widened in following out a wall or when relics were discovered, to be noted later on, then the ground was further opened. The length of the first trench was 122 feet; at 35 feet from the north end a wall was struck. Following this out it terminated at 30 feet; the north face of this wall was fairly good, on the other side it had been disturbed, that is, stones lying about irregularly owing to its having fallen or been thrown down. At 2½ feet from the trench was a stone in position on the wall, having a depression in it 5 inches diameter by 2½ inches deep; this was judged to be a socket in which the pivot attached to the door or gate worked. This

wall extended slightly across the trench to the east. Opening the ground it was seen that another wall branched off from it; this was followed for 36 feet, from thence it gradually lessened in height until at 6 feet further on it was lost. This wall was built of flat stones without mortar, so far as could be seen from the part uncovered. It was 3 feet thick, the face on either side being in fair condition. On the south side of this wall there appeared to be another branching off from it, but on opening the ground for about 6 feet it proved not to be one. On referring to the Plan it will be seen that the first wall stands at right angles to the last-named, evidently forming part of two sides of a building, possibly a shed or store-house. One rough roofing tile (Oolite), with nail in was dug up, and a few bits of flat pennant stone, whereas in the house opened last year there was a considerable quantity, used for flooring, as well as several pennant roofing tiles. At the corner of this building another wall branched off on the outside. Following it out it proved to form part of a circle ; for a length of about 30 feet it was fairly well defined, and thence was gradually lost. Springing from the outside of this circle was a short wall. At the corner of the building, and outside the circle, several relics were unearthed at a depth of from 1½ to 2 feet, including a bronze brooch (see list of Finds), and a nearly complete earthen vase ; unfortunately it fell to pieces, many of them very small, when the man was getting it out, although he was very careful. The writer made many attempts to put it together, but failed. A small saucer from the same site has in part been restored. The greater part of the north and south ends of the first trench was undisturbed ground. To the west of this a short length of walling was opened, but it certainly had no direct connection with the building. Another rather longer length at some distance to the south was cut through when opening a long trench, and was followed on either side of the trench for a few feet and then lost. Altogether a total length of about 600 feet of trenches was cut, as shown on the Plan, but apart from those already described, or rather what they brought to light, nothing need be said, beyond that here and there fragments of pottery were picked up. The writer having on several occasions picked up small bits of pottery thrown up by moles towards the south corner of the field, two short trenches were cut there, but proved a blank.

The shed has been left in the field, not with any intention of opening more ground there or even on any part of the Down. Two sites not far from the city have been suggested for further operations. If it is decided to undertake either of these, permission to do so must first be obtained, and then financial

assistance asked for. This in the past has been readily obtained, for which the writer, on behalf of his colleagues and himself, takes this opportunity of thanking all who have contributed.

The two coins were sent to Mr. Manningly, Coin Department B.M., and some of the iron articles to Mr. Reginald A. Smith, Antiquities Department B.M., for identification. Acknowledgments have been tendered them for their information. Mr. Smith considers that two of the iron articles are Saxon, and one he could not state definitely the date or for what purpose it was made.

Mr. Robert Blathwayt has kindly given all the "finds" (see list following these notes), to the Literary and Scientific Institution, Bath. They have been placed in the Museum, in one of the nine cases containing the result of nine years explorations on Lansdown.

LIST OF FINDS, 1913.

Two bronze coins.

Mr. Manningly, Coin Department, British Museum, states that one coin is of the Emperor Claudius, A.D. 41-54. It is in poor condition. On the obverse is a head to the left. On the reverse is Minérva with spear and shield, and S.C. in the field.

A coin of this Emperor was unearthed in the same field last year.

The other coin is too defaced to identify. On the obverse is a radiated head to the right. Probable date, A.D. 240-280.

Bronze.—Hinged brooch with catch and pin complete; there is a slight knob at the foot and a loop for suspension in one piece with the head. These brooches were sometimes used in pairs; hence the loop to connect them by a chain, or otherwise. It measures $1\frac{7}{8}$ ins. over all. The bow is ornamented in the centre with a triangular design, the centre of which, of the same shape, has a depression, once filled with enamel; from this to the head runs a narrow rib with transverse notches. The crossbar (representing the coiled spring) measures $\frac{13}{16}$ in. in length, and has a pin through it on which the pin works. The pair of crosslines at each end of

the crossbars recall the spiral coils often used to form the spring (*illustrated*). Fibula of thin metal twisted out of shape, and without pin, and catch broken off. The only ornamentation is a slight bead on either side of the bow. It is 2½ in. long.

Ring $\frac{7}{8}$ in. outside diameter with overlapping ends of wire $\frac{1}{16}$ in. diameter.

Ring $\frac{5}{8}$ in. diameter; also with overlapping ends of wire $\frac{1}{16}$ in. diameter.

Flat bead $\frac{7}{16}$ in. diameter, barely $\frac{1}{8}$ in. thick, with rounded edges, small hole through the centre. Very thin piece, 2 ins. long, ½ in. wide, broken off at one end.

Iron.—Curious article of what date and for what use has not been determined *(illustrated)*. It is 7½ ins. long, in one piece, which is bow shaped; one end is turned up, rising 2 ins. and ending with an eye 1 in. diameter, with hole ½ in. diameter through it; at 4¼ in. clear of this is a similar upright, but it is rivetted to the main piece which is here widened for strength. There is another piece 3½ ins. long, butted against this upright and also rivetted to the main piece, making the full length 8½ ins.

The following articles are illustrated :—

Awl 6$\frac{3}{8}$ ins. long, $\frac{3}{8}$ in. square, tapering off to the ends (*Fig. 1*).

Article 4 ins. long, $\frac{1}{8}$ in. thick, curved on one edge, and two concave curves on the other; the centre is shaped forming about half a circle. It has been suggested that it might be a mount for a reticule or purse (*Fig 2*).

Knife with curved blade, the end is broken off; now measures 2½ inches long, 1½ inches wide, shank 2 inches long (*Fig. 3*).

Wedge or chisel, 2$\frac{5}{8}$ ins. long, ¼ in. thick, tapered to a thin edge, where it is 1¼ ins. wide (*Fig. 4*).

Pony's shoe nearly complete, 3½ ins. across, $\frac{7}{8}$ in. wide, six nail holes (*Fig. 5*).

Buckle, 3 ins. long, with pin (*Fig. 6*).

Ring, 1¾ in. diameter outside, 1¼ in. clear (*Fig. 7*).

Bow fibula, 2½ ins. long, pin missing (*Fig. 8*).

Flat article, $3\frac{3}{8}$ ins. long, tapering from each end, towards but not in the centre, with pin or rivet in one end. Possibly one of several pendants forming a sort of sporran (*Fig. 9*).

Pin, 4 ins. long, with head on one side (*Fig. 10*).

Socket, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ins. long, possibly a spud. Unfortunately the end was broken off when opening the ground and could not be recovered, although the soil was sifted (*Fig. 11*).

Awl (?) $2\frac{7}{8}$ ins. long, staple, part of stylus, part of horse-shoe, cleat, nails, hook, &c.

Pottery.—Samian, 5 ins. long, design in relief, four small pieces also with design in relief, and one piece with part of potter's mark C I *(illustrated)*.

Twelve ditto without ornament.

Decorated *(illustrated)*. The three at the top are dark yellow, slightly glazed; that on the right with rim, and the three pieces in the centre are dark brown; the one on the left light brown, and that on the right red.

Part of colander, amphora, 12 rims of various shapes and colours; one fairly large triangular piece of light colour has two small holes through it, evidently for repairing the vessel by rivetting, as shown by a metal rivet remaining in one hole. Several small pieces of coarse black ware with grains mixed in, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ in. thick.

As usual samples only of pottery were retained, the rest were thrown back in the trenches.

Sundries.—Spindlewhorl, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, $\frac{5}{16}$ in. thick, hole $\frac{3}{8}$ in. diameter. Counter $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. diameter, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick. Six small bits of glass and small portion of glass vessel, $\frac{5}{16}$ in. thick. One half of a glass bead, $1\frac{5}{8}$ in. diameter, $\frac{11}{16}$ in. thick, hole $\frac{3}{8}$ in. diameter. The colours blue and pale yellow are intermixed. Bone bodkin, 3 ins. long, groove on one side extending nearly from end to end. Tile (Oolite) with nail, part of quern, rubbers, two parts of whetstones, flint scraper and 9 flints, metal slag, &c.

LANSDOWN EXPLORATION FUND.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1913.

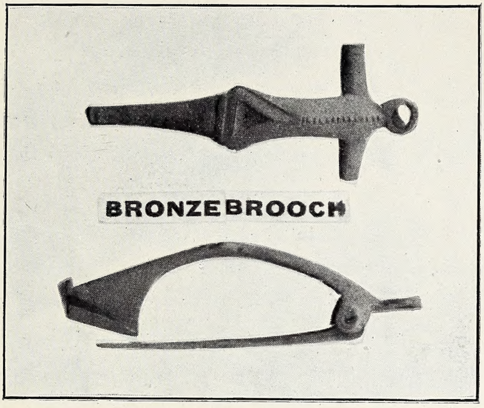
1913. Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward	9	11	0
,, Subscriptions	25	9	0
,, Sale of "Proceedings"	0	11	3
	£35	11	3

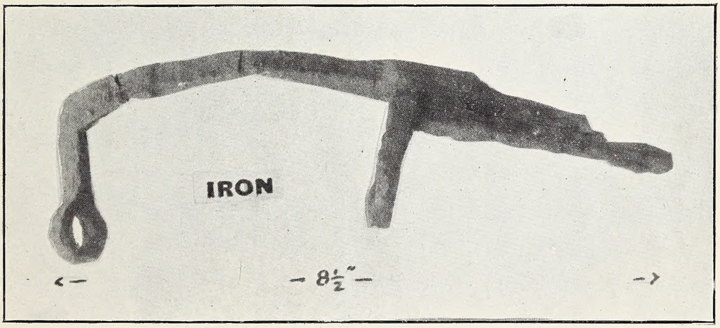
1913. Cr.	£	s.	d.
By J. B. Keene & Co.—Share of Printing and Illustrating Report, 1912	6	2	8
,, Wages	9	9	8
,, F. E. Wadman, Disturbance of Ground and Rolling	2	0	0
,, Conveyances	0	15	0
,, Insuring Workmen	1	5	0
,, Health Insurance	0	5	10
,, Hire of Room and Lantern and Fees ...	1	10	6
,, Lantern Slides	0	10	0
,, Circulars and Photographs	1	0	0
,, Postages	0	13	6
	23	12	2
Balance	11	19	1
	£35	11	3

Examined and found correct—F. W. LAWRENCE.
20th December, 1913.

THOS. S. BUSH, *Hon. Treasurer.*

The cost of the Report on Explorations of 1913 not included in the above.





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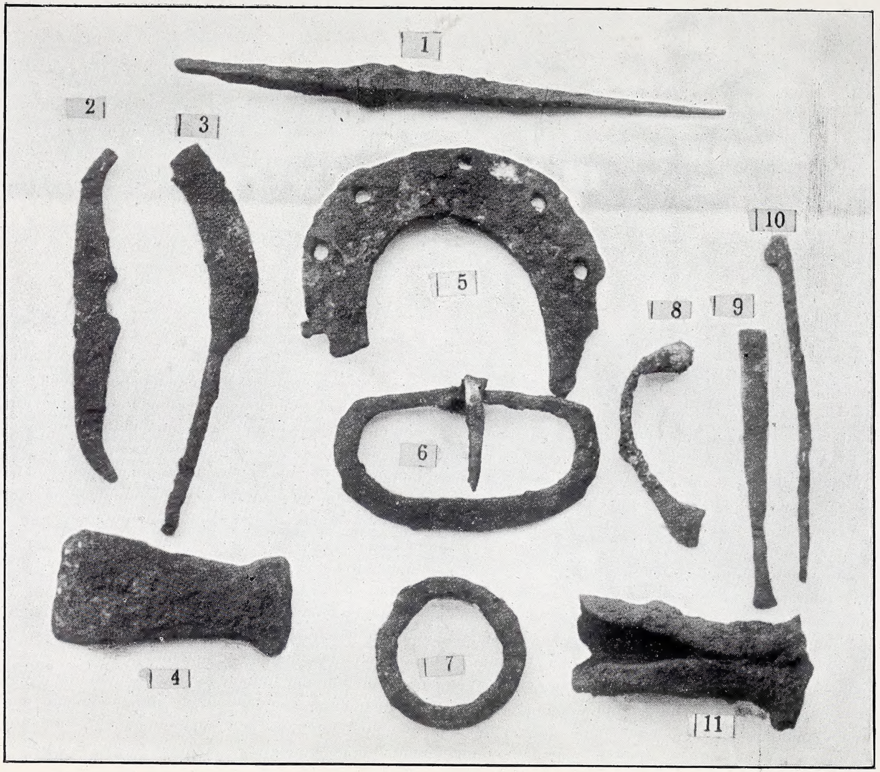

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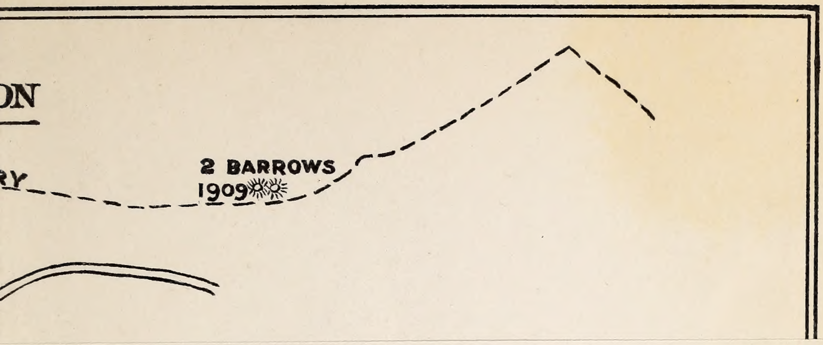
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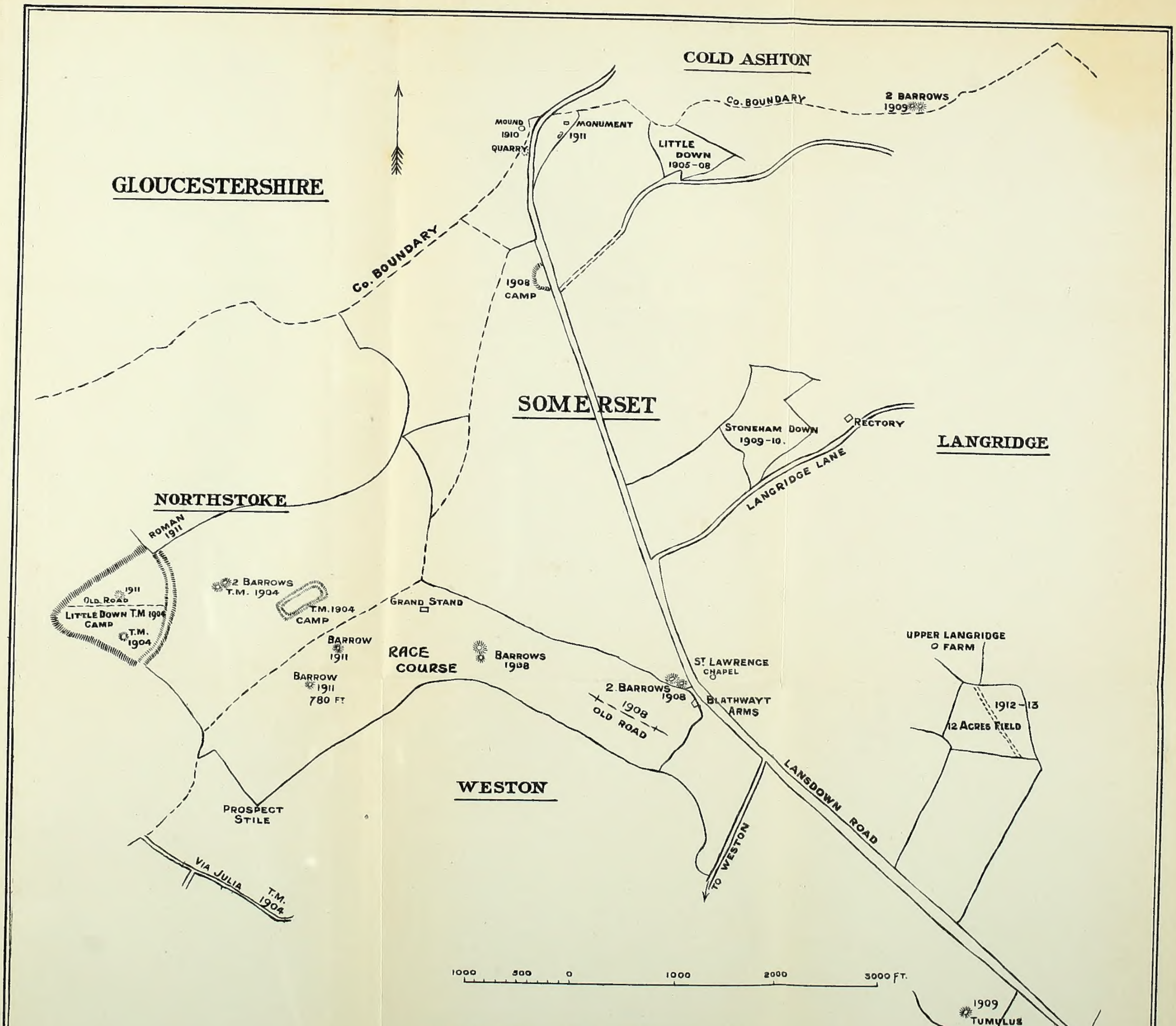

EXPLORATIONS ON LANSDOWN, 1905-13.

T.M. 1904 = OPENED BY MR TRICE MARTIN.

T.S.B.

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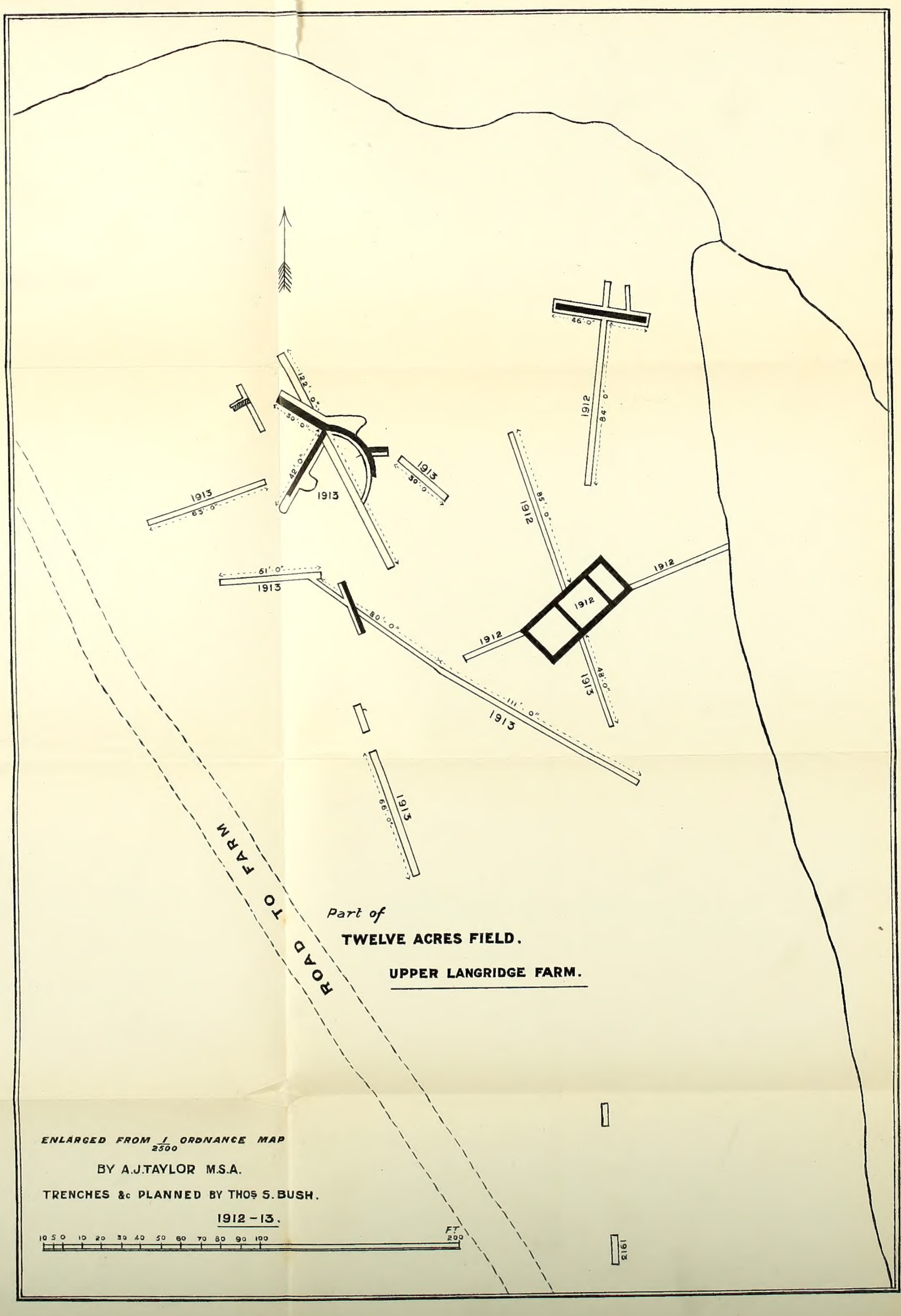

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ROAD TO FARM
Part of
TWELVE ACRES FIELD.
UPPER LANGRIDGE FARM.
ENLARGED FROM 1/2500 ORDNANCE MAP
BY A.J.TAYLOR M.S.A.
TRENCHES &c PLANNED BY THOS S. BUSH.
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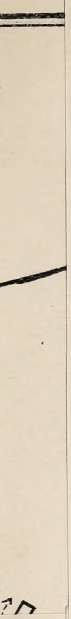

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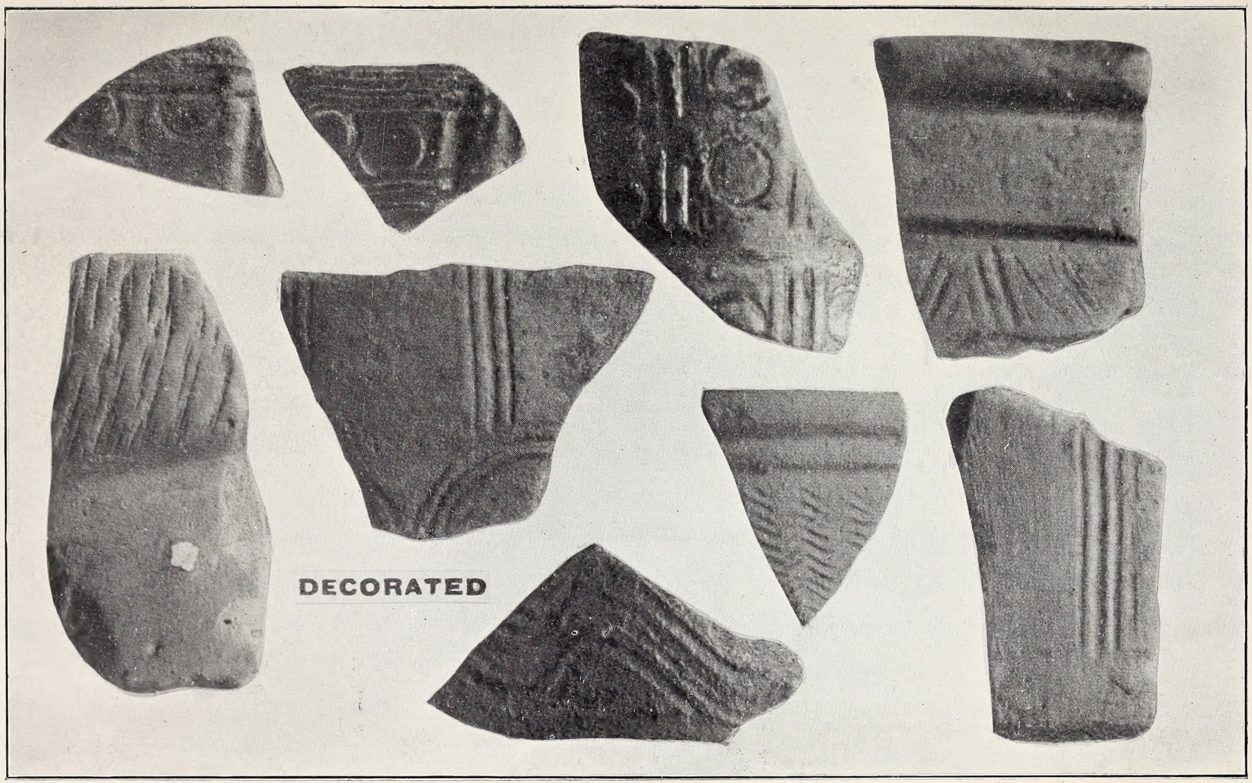

Photo Messrs. Middleton Ashman & Co.

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

1914-1918.

BATH:
PRINTED AT THE HERALD PRESS.

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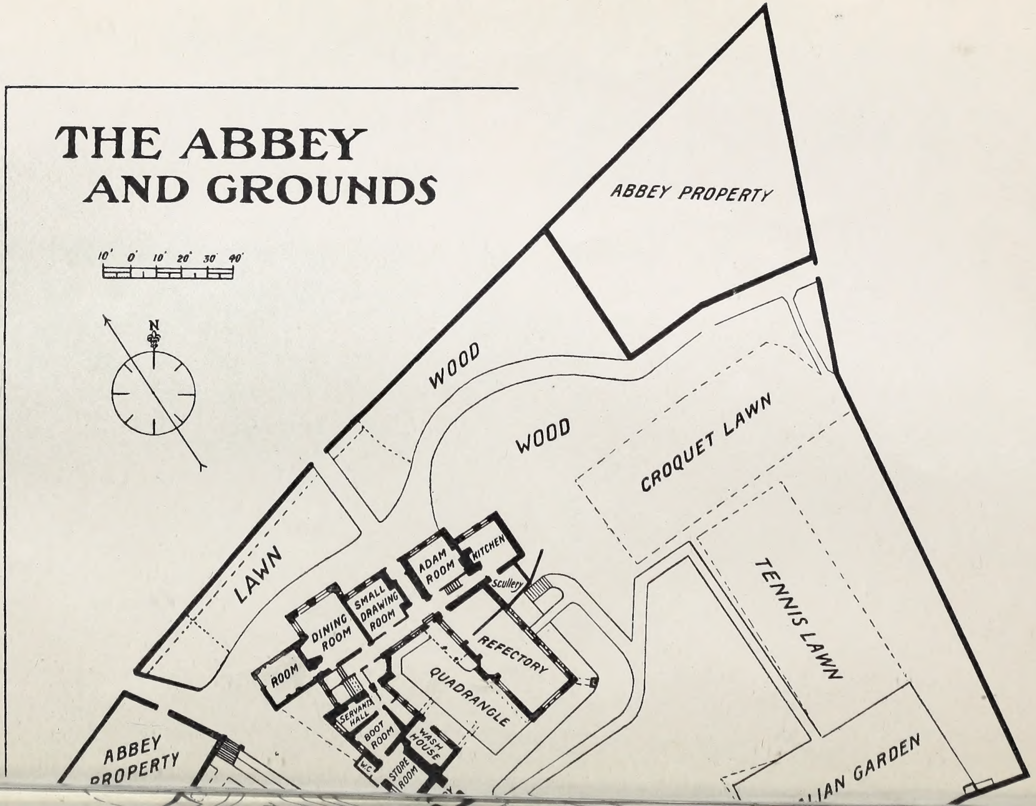

Frontispiece.

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PARTICULARS

RESPECTING

BECKINGTON ABBEY

By JOSEPH PRAGUE

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY M. H. NISBET

EDITED BY HUME NISBET

To be Sold in 1910

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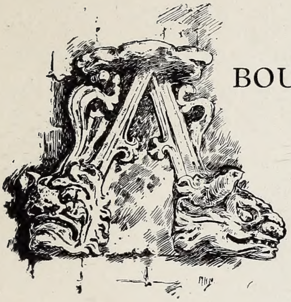


GARGOYLES OF ABBEY

BOUT three miles from Frome, upon the high road to Bath, and within ten miles of the latter town, lies the quaint old village of Beckington.

Situated in the midst of a region abounding in features of the greatest historical and antiquarian interest, the village, with its numerous ancient remains, forms an important link with the past.

Mention of it is to be found in Doomsday Book :

Roger Arundel holds 'Bechintone' in the time of Edward the Confessor ; also Ailuert, with '*ten carucates of arable, two carucates of demesne, nine villanes and seven cottagers having six ploughs.*' There was '*a mill of twenty shillings rent, twelve acres of meadow, eight acres of pasture, and one hundred acres of wood.*'

In the reign of Henry II. Beckington became the property of the Erleigh family, who held it intact until the time of the Black Prince, when Sir John de Erleigh, having been taken prisoner at the Battle of Naziers, was forced to sell the greater part of his heritage to pay ransom. The property thus curtailed passed by marriage into the possession of the St. Maur (Seymour) family, who held it until the year 1600, when it was purchased by John Ashe.

Beckington was an important centre for the manufacture of cloth, when the industry was at the height of its prosperity in England. As late as 1719 seven hundred woollen cloths were made there yearly.

In earlier days, when the monasteries flourished, the good fathers of Beckington were famed for their hospitality and the quality of their cider.

The history of Beckington has been varied and interesting; and this history may be traced in the numerous monuments and relics of other days which still remain, in an excellent state of preservation, in and around the village. Among these may be mentioned the church dedicated to St. Gregory, with its Norman tower and font, Seymours' Court, erected by the St. Maur family in the fifteenth century, the Castle, Beckington House erected in 1628, the Cedars, which contains a hall panelled with carved work from St. Mary Redcliffe Church, and Beckington Abbey.

THE ABBEY

The most interesting and best preserved of these old buildings is undoubtedly the Abbey.

This handsome building was purchased, as a residence, in 1907, by Mrs. Hume Nisbet, who spared neither trouble nor expense, during her ownership, in restoring, improving, and beautifying the property upon lines of historical accuracy, her intention having been to bring everything up to the highest standard of excellence, whilst retaining intact all of the original ancient characteristics which make the place so valuable from the antiquarian point of view. These older features have, in many cases, been rescued from the decay due to a long period of neglect; and, where restoration has been necessary, it has been carried out with care under the guidance of experts. The result is that, at present, the building is in a perfect state of repair with regard to roofs, gutters, timbers, etc., possesses every comfort and convenience necessary to a modern residence, and, at the same time, represents a perfect storehouse of antiquities.

Holding a dominating central position facing the main road, with its massive time-mellowed stone walls gracefully

THE ABBEY—FRONT VIEW

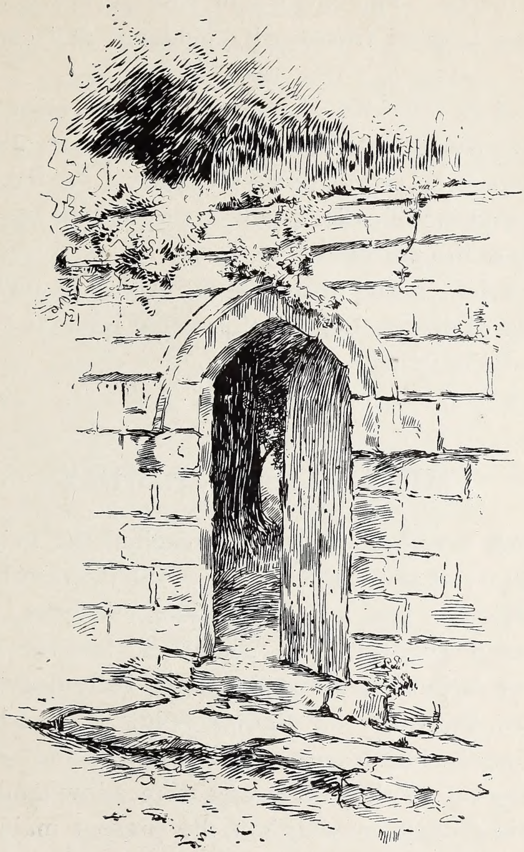
draped in creepers and climbing roses, its mullioned and transomed-windows, its handsome gables flanked by battlemented wings, its grey lichened roofs, it presents a stately picture which commands attention and compels admiration.

Much of the architecture and decoration, interior and exterior, is of Tudor, Elizabethan, and Jacobean date, but portions are older and exhibit distinct traces of the original monastic character of the building. That it was originally a monastery cannot be doubted. The size and disposition of the apartments alone point to this conclusion. It is, moreover, situated in close proximity to the old church; and excavations made during the tenancy of the late owner have resulted in the discovery of a passage at the end of the east wing, leading under the present grounds (which rise some feet above the original level) in the direction of the church.

Many other interesting discoveries have been made. These, with the material furnished by research among ancient documents, render it possible to reconstruct the original design and form an accurate idea of the building as it stood when first erected, somewhere about the year 1156. It then probably consisted of the west wing—the present main building and east wing would be added later—and formed the nucleus of a monastic house belonging to the order of St. Augustine. The Records of Merton Priory furnish the following details:—

Oct. 12, 1261.—'*Eustace, Prior and Convent, made known by Charter that the Venerable J. Mancel, Treasurer of York, Patron of the House of Religious at Bekenton, had presented three Canons of Merton, successively, to the House of Bekenton, each of whom, at his presentation, had been preferred to be Prior of such House. Eustace, the Prior of Merton, for himself and successors, protested expressly that they had no right of interference with the Prior or Canons of such House, or right of jurisdiction, or claim whatsoever, as was here disclaimed and expressed very fully. And, moreover, in respect to R. de Suth Mallinge, their concanon, and*

the last so preferred to be Prior there, they absolved him from the obedience to which he was bound to their House, renouncing absolutely and in all things, in perpetuity, any power in respect to the said House of Bekenton, in respect to the Prior being assumed from their own House. In witness



PRIVATE DOOR TO CHURCH HILL

the seal of the Prior and Convent was set. Dated at Merton, the 4th Ide of October, in the year of grace, 1261.'

Later, the building was converted into a college for priests, probably about the year 1347. It was here that Thomas Beckington, Bishop of Bath and Wells, confidant of Henry VI. and Ambassador to France for the negotiation of the

marriage of that monarch with Margaret of Anjou, received his early education and was made monk. Probably, too, it was used at one period as an Abbey Grange, connected with Wells, to which the monks resorted for a change of air, providing at the same time relays of clergy for the neighbouring church. The history of this period is, however, obscured by lack of trustworthy evidence and can only be surmised.

It retained its religious character until the reign of Henry VII. It then passed into secular hands and was, during that and the succeeding reigns down to James I., subjected to the alterations and modifications which resulted in the structure as it stands at the present day.

This, in brief, is the history of the Abbey as furnished by the evidence of documents and the actual remains existing in and about the building.

THE ANCIENT ABBEY

The Abbey may be said to have reached the height of its monastic glory at about the middle of the thirteenth century. At that period it had an independent existence, and lived upon its own produce. It consisted, besides the main structure, of various outlying buildings, including two mills, one for corn, the other for cloth-weaving, a tithe-house and a malt-house. There were one hundred and eighty-five acres of demesne, with twelve acres of meadow land.

The Abbey itself consisted of the present main building from gable to gable, comprising a hall, with dais, screen, and minstrels' gallery, and a parlour. Behind the hall, forming the present west wing, stretched the buttery, the kitchen, and the cellar. The east wing was entirely occupied by the hospitium for the entertainment of pilgrims and travellers.

The hall of that period included the present dining and large drawing-room, the floor between having been added later. The hospitium was divided in the same way and is

now represented by the studio and refectory, with their ante-rooms. The pantries, servants' hall, and boot-room occupy, at the present day, the space formerly occupied by the buttery; whilst of the old kitchen only a small portion remains, converted into a wash-house. The kitchen, in monastic days, evidently extended to within a few feet of the wall of the hospitium, closing in the quadrangle and forming a court with cloisters and the gallery for the cells of the students.

The cellar lay behind the kitchen at the western side. It is now used as a store-room.

The entry would be made from the west side, which would then be the frontage (the kitchen and the present front forming south and north wings respectively), by means of a bridge across the Bek, the stream from which the village derived its name. This stream, now for the most part covered in, was then a fair-sized river flowing past the western side (the front of those days) of the Abbey and dividing it from the orchard. The river fed a fish-pond in the orchard and supplied the Abbey with water.

THE EXTERIOR

The Abbey in its present form consists of the main building, facing north by west, with a frontage of over one hundred and twenty feet, and two large wings extending behind the building towards the south, sixty-eight feet and eighty feet respectively; taking the form of the letter E without the middle tongue, having the ends of uneven length and sloped a little to the east.

The front presents a straight line of roof between two gables, flanked by two smaller subsidiary wings with battlemented parapets. These latter are evidently later additions, probably of Jacobean date.

The gable wall at the western end projects about five feet beyond the main wall.

THE ABBEY—SIDE VIEW, WITH MONK'S DOVE-COT

There are in all nineteen windows to this aspect, three of which are Tudor ; the rest are Elizabethan and Jacobean.

The entrance porch lies close to the eastern end. It is of Tudor date.

The two wings, extending beyond, at the back, form a quadrangle, with its open side towards the south, facing the orchard. This quadrangle measures fifty-six feet by forty-two feet. The centre is occupied by a lawn with ornamental garden plots.

At the north-east corner, covering the back entrance to the main building, is a roofed verandah, the roof of which is faced with carved stone and supported by a series of clustered stone shafts. The arches between the shafts are cusped in the Gothic style ; and the spandrels of each arch have cusped panels sunk in them. The corner of the roof is finished by triangular ornaments surmounted at the apices by fleurs-de-lis, and terminating at the extremities of the bases in quaint gargoyle heads. A recessed canopy is fixed to the wall at the back of the verandah near the centre, the terminations of which are also in the form of gargoyle heads.

This verandah, restored by Col. Lambert, a previous owner of the Abbey, formed a portion of the ancient cloisters.

High up on a corner of the west wall traces are visible of the gallery in which the students' cells were situated at the period when the Abbey was a priests' college. Of this gallery nothing now remains ; but it was in existence within the memory of one inhabitant of Beckington.

The west wing forms a series of buildings joined together with the irregularity characteristic of ancient structures.

Grounds, Etc.

Attached to the Abbey are about three acres of grounds, freehold in perpetuity, comprising an orchard and meadow land, with poultry runs, ample flower and kitchen gardens, with hot-houses, stable, coach-house, and pig-sties (at the

THE QUADRANGLE OF ABBEY, WITH CLOISTERS

head of the orchard), croquet and tennis lawns, and a fine old Italian garden.

The grounds are, for the greater part, protected by a stout high stone wall, which provides absolute privacy and seclusion. This gives place to iron railings at the front, screened by shrubs and bushes.

There are four entrances: the front entrance, from the main road, opening upon a charming lawn, upon which, among other shrubs, grow two Japanese cherry-trees of great age, believed to have been brought over by the Jesuits about the time of Francis Xavier; the tradesmen's gate, to the right, leading by a private road between the flower-gardens and the west side of the house to the servants' hall; the carriage gate, by the stable, at the head of the orchard; and the church gate, leading by a lane to the church. The last opens upon the east side, and the Abbey is approached from it by a path, pleasantly shaded by beeches and other trees, and known as the priests' walk.

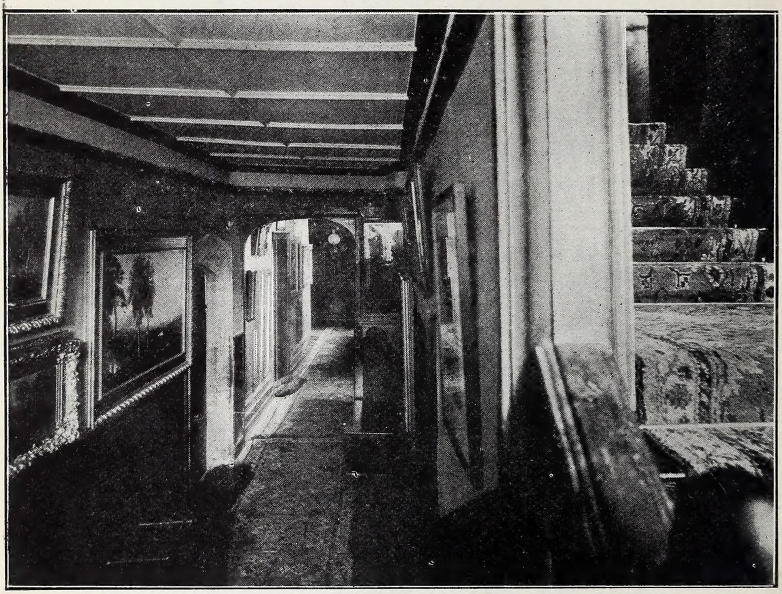
The Abbey is flanked to the north-east and north-west by cottages acquired by the late owner, which form, as it were, part of the protecting wall. These cottages are very old, and were probably attached to the Abbey in monastic times. They are in first-rate condition and satisfactorily tenanted. There are, in all, five, including Abbey Cottage, with one of which is included a shop.

THE INTERIOR

The front entrance is covered by a porch with a low stone arch of the Tudor style, six feet six inches high in the centre and five feet across. The porch is eight feet in height and six feet in extent, with a bench at either side. It is separated from the hall by double glazed doors. The hall is five feet wide and extends twenty feet, opening, at the other end, upon the quadrangle at the back. A passage cuts through the hall at right angles, four feet three inches wide and fifty-two feet long, extending the whole length of the main building.

The passage is divided by arches into three distinct sections. The first of these, from the western end to the door of the dining-room, is perfectly plain, with the exception of the ceiling, which is divided into rectangular panels by moulded wooden ribs, in the Jacobean style.

The intermediate section, from the dining-room door to the hall, is panelled breast high with carved panels of the kind known as the folded-linen pattern. The carving is of the earliest and simplest form, with no trace of Italian influence.



LOBBY AND STAIRCASE

The panels measure fourteen and a half inches by thirty inches. The mouldings of the styles are continuous throughout. They abut directly against the rails, the mouldings of which are stopped to accommodate them. The ceiling of this section is decorated in plaster with Tudor roses, fleurs-de-lis, and the pomegranates of Catherine of Aragon. At the point where the passage intersects the hall there is a plaster arch ornamented with the same devices, and terminating in exquisitely modelled satyr masks.

The third section from the hall to the kitchen entrance is plain, without decoration of any sort.

There are staircases at each end of the passage leading to the upper parts. That at the western end is a broad, handsome Jacobean staircase; the eastern one leads from the kitchen passage to the bath-rooms and is for the use of the servants.

The main passage is lighted by two Tudor windows overlooking the quadrangle; one of two lights, the other of three.

GROUND FLOOR (MAIN BUILDING)

The 'Adam' Room, Etc.

To the east of the hall lie the boudoir, or 'Adam' room, the kitchen, scullery, and pantry. The boudoir is a large light room with two Jacobean windows facing the front lawn. It is seventeen feet six inches square and nine feet high. It is decorated in modern style, and contains a recess to the right of the fireplace designed by Robert Adam. The fireplace is fitted with a handsome modern grate. The chimney-piece is of carved oak (modern). The room has an outer felted door.

The kitchen, scullery, and pantry are situated beyond the 'Adam' room at the end of a stone passage, which is shut off from the main passage by a door.

To the west of the hall lie the small drawing-room, the dining-room, and the morning-room.

The Small Drawing-Room

The small drawing-room opens upon the middle section of the passage, decorated with the 'linen' panels and ornamental plaster ceiling. This room measures eighteen feet by sixteen feet and is ten feet high. It is lighted by two large Jacobean windows overlooking the front lawn. The decoration is for the most part modern; but the ceiling is a moulded

one, decorated in the same style as the middle passage. The mouldings take the form of a large symmetrical wheel of graceful proportions, formed of eight radiating sections or panels, with curved points, and a central circular panel. The central panel (the hub of the wheel) contains a large heraldic Tudor rose, from which radiate five fleurs-de-lis interspersed with five smaller roses. The outer panels (between the spokes of the wheel) are decorated with pomegranates and Tudor roses. Rosettes ornament the juncture of the sections and small bosses the points of the panels. At each corner of the ceiling the space is occupied by a beautifully modelled fleur-de-lis surrounded by four Tudor roses. The whole is perfectly preserved, and forms one of the finest specimens of this kind of ceiling. The decoration is executed upon the flat.

The Dining-Room

The dining-room opens upon the western section of the passage. The entrance is an arched stone one, and the door is a heavy massive one of triple oak studded with nails. This room is the original hall, and formed in monastic days a single large spacious apartment with the room above (the large drawing-room). It measures twenty-three feet in length, eighteen feet in breadth, and is, in its present form, nine feet high. The ceiling is plain. The walls are sheathed to the full height with fine dark oak panelling of Jacobean date, finished at the top by a carved oak Renaissance frieze and dentilled cornice. The oak of the panelling is beautifully flowered, and the mouldings are mitred on the solid.

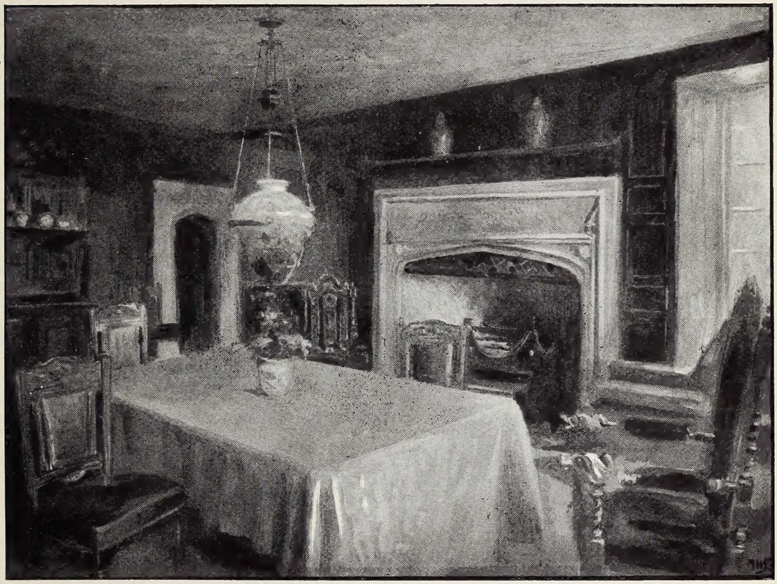
The fireplace is on the western side, nearest to the north end. The opening is in the form of a flat-pointed, wide Tudor arch with plain shields carved in the spandrels at the corners. It measures six feet across, is five feet high at the centre of the arch and two feet in depth. The bricks at the back are arranged in the 'herring-bone' pattern adopted for fire-resisting qualities. The size and shape of these bricks indicate an early period.

The panelling of the room is carried round to form the chimney-piece above a broad cornice serving as a mantel-shelf with the frieze repeated below it.

The room is lighted by two tall Jacobean windows facing the north, one of the same style facing west, and a small pointed Tudor window let into the east wall where the latter projects beyond the main front.

The flooring is of old oak in good condition.

Besides the larger entrance door there is, in the south



PART OF DINING-ROOM

or passage wall a smaller door of the same type, partially covered, on the outside, by the stairs. The door, however, can be lifted off its hinges and withdrawn, thus disclosing an opening leading under the stairs and landing as far as the outer wall. Projecting into this space from the direction of the passage is the end of an old stone conduit or drain, probably connected with the refectory in some way.

The south or passage wall in earlier days, and probably as late as the reign of Henry VIII., was the screen which

formed a characteristic feature of the old halls. Above it, and supported by it, would be the minstrels' gallery. The dais would be facing it, at the northern end with the windows behind and the fireplace close to it. The hall extended beyond the screen for a distance of about twelve feet.

The Morning-Room

Beyond the dining-room to the west, reached by a door in the left-hand recess by the fireplace, lies the morning-room. It measures eighteen feet by fourteen feet, and is eight feet high ; has a large north window and a door opening upon the western side of the house. The fireplace, with a stone mantel-shelf and curb, is on the south wall. This room, with the room above it, forms the western subsidiary battlemented wing coinciding with the kitchen, etc., at the eastern end added at a late period, when the old north wing of monastic days had been converted into the frontage. From their chief characteristics both of these battlemented portions may be ascribed to the reign of James I.

GROUND FLOOR (EAST WING)

Facing the 'Adam ' room on the other side of the passage is the door leading to the east wing. This door is a remarkably fine specimen of Jacobean work. It measures six feet three inches by three feet, and is divided into fifteen rectangular panels set in mouldings of great depth, mitred on the solid. The mouldings measure three inches and a half in depth, equalling the inner breadth of the panels.

The door opens upon a small ante-room used as a lavatory with a w.c. attached. Dividing this from the room beyond is another Jacobean door of larger size, measuring seven feet three inches by three feet two inches, having six large panels with narrow solid-mitred mouldings. The panelling is also carried round the opening of the doorway.

The rest of the ground floor of the east wing is entirely occupied by the room called the refectory. It is thirty-eight feet in length, twenty feet in breadth, and eleven feet high. It is lighted by Tudor windows, six in number, four facing east, the other two south and west. The large open fire-place, set in the middle of the western wall, is framed in stone, the opening forming a Tudor arch; it measures eight feet across, six feet in depth, and is five feet high at the centre of the arch. The mouth of the chimney has been bricked up, and a stove has been fitted into the fireplace.

This room, with the room above it and the ante-rooms attached to them, comprising the entire east wing, formed in monastic days a single apartment, the hospitium. It was probably, however, one of the last additions made whilst the building still retained its religious character. There was no doubt, too, an additional kitchen attached to it, in accordance with the rule of monastic houses which forbade the monks to associate indiscriminately with their casual guests. Both kitchen and hospitium lay at the back of the original structure, arranged in such a manner that they could be reached from the front entrance without entering the actual precincts of the monastery; at the same time the kitchen would be so placed as to be within convenient proximity to the regular kitchen.

GROUND FLOOR (WEST WING)

The west wing opens upon the western section of the main passage, opposite the dining-room. It comprises the serving-room, two pantries for glass and china, the servants' hall, the boot-room, the store-room, wash-house, and aviary.

The serving-room, as has been stated before, formed, with the passage, part of the old hall. The servants' hall, pantries, and boot-room occupy the space formerly occupied by the buttery, an apartment twenty-three feet long by

twenty feet wide, and reaching upward to the roof. Beyond lie the store-room, the wash-house, and the aviary. The store-room lies behind the boot-room, with a door opening upon the private road at the west side and a staircase leading to the upper parts; it is the old monastic cellar. The wash-house lies to the east of it and can only be entered from the quadrangle side. It contains a pump, coppers, and other fittings for washing clothes. The arch of the old fireplace and part of the stone-work still remain, though the chimney has been bricked up.

The aviary, like the wash-house, is reached from the outside. It has two entrances, the one opening east upon the quadrangle, the other west upon the private road. These entrances are fitted with sliding doors, and the place is of a suitable size to be converted into a motor-house. It was formerly the entrance to the monastery, and the ancient stone arch still remains over the entrance from the quadrangle.

THE UPPER STORY

Staircase, etc.

The main staircase, leading to the upper storey in three short flights of broad low stairs, with wide landings, is of Jacobean date; it mounts upwards, in the square well form, three steps westward, in continuation of the lower passage, turning at the first landing with a short stout handrail, the newel-post of which is surmounted by an acorn-shaped knob; then proceeding eastward to the upper landing and passages by two flights with a landing between them. The staircase is lighted by three Elizabethan windows set in the western wall, two on the level of the landing and the third high up in the upper part of the well. The ceiling above the staircase and landings resembles that in the section of the passage from which it rises, having straight-moulded ribs arranged to form rectangular panels.

The upper landing measures five feet nine inches by ten feet. It is lighted by a Tudor window. Two passages diverge from it, one to the right leading to the upper part of the west wing, the other to the left leading to the upper rooms of the main building and east wing.

MAIN BUILDING

The upper part of the main building consists of the large drawing-room, a bedroom with dressing-room attached, a second bedroom — known as the blue room — the servants' attics, and, at the eastern end, two large bathrooms. These are all reached by the passage to the left of the landing. This passage coincides with that on the ground floor, and extends the length of the main building from west to east. It is divided at about the middle by a felted door. The first section, from the landing to the door, is lighted by a Tudor window of three lights. The second section is lighted by a smaller window with a lead sink beneath it having hot and cold water faucets. At the end, above the east staircase, are skylights.

The Large Drawing-Room

This room opens upon the landing at the head of the main staircase, and is the most splendid apartment in the Abbey. It measures thirty-two feet in length, eighteen feet across, and is fifteen feet high at the centre. The ceiling is a magnificent vaulted one, having in addition to the main vault a subsidiary cove at the side formed by the two great supporting beams which extend the whole length of the room. These beams, cut from a single tree, follow in their outlines the curvature of the grain, producing a unique effect.

The decoration of the ceiling takes the form of broad shallow ribbon- or strap-work, slightly concave in section, and without moulding, the outlines merging softly into the

LARGE DRAWING-ROOM OF BECKINGTON ABBEY

background. The pattern is formal, the strap-work enclosing panels of rectangular, diamond, and oval shapes linked by plain broad bands; at intervals it forms into scrolled ends, symmetrically arranged to balance each other. The ornamentation of the panels and ribbon-work is characterised by the same simplicity and harmony and does not overpower the main design. The panels contain beautifully modelled fleurs-de-lis and pomegranates, the strap-work is embossed with rosettes and other small ornaments. The effect is finished by five large handsome pendants arranged in line down the centre of the vault.

The coved portions of the great beams carry out the same design as the main vault—strap-work in low relief forming scrolls and simple panels. The perpendicular faces of the two beams, where they merge into the curve of the main vault, are decorated with Renaissance friezes in plaster. The strap-work design of the main vault is continued on the south wall down to the level of the beams.

The northern end of the room is almost entirely occupied by the large mullioned and transomed Elizabethan window which reaches from the ceiling to within a few feet of the floor. The stone framework of the window measures eleven feet across and nine feet in length. It is divided into six longitudinal sections by mullions, and a stone transom, close to the top, further subdivides it into six large and six smaller lights. The recess is sheathed from the floor upward with dark panelled oak, the mouldings of which are carved on the solid. The topmost panel at each side has a smaller carved panel set in it, with the bodkin of James I. executed below it. Three large Tudor roses are modelled in plaster on the under surface at the top of the recess, and the remaining section of the wall, from the top of the window to the ceiling vault, is decorated with a device composed of pomegranates and oak leaves.

Two smaller Tudor windows, with flat-pointed arches, are let into the east and west walls on either side of the large window.

The fireplace is situated at about the centre of the west wall. The opening is rectangular; it measures five feet across, four feet high, and one foot deep. The chimney-piece reaches to the ceiling and is of carved stone, very ornate, the ornamentation being of the Renaissance type, treated, however, with a certain formality and restraint characteristic of the earlier English work of this kind.

Two stone pilasters flank the opening, with long panels carved in a foliate design in low relief with little modelling.

PART OF DRAWING-ROOM

These are supported by pedestals, upon the face of each of which is carved a curious symbol resembling a four-petalled rose, with scrolled ends and a large plain central boss, set in the form of an upright cross. The pilasters in turn support a wide, moulded cornice, with massive corner brackets in the form of acanthus leaves. A narrow frieze of continuous intertwining curves, with small central rosettes at their intersections, runs below the shelf, which is further supplemented underneath by a dentilled border. The space between the

frieze and the fireplace opening is occupied by a panel formed of a single stone, decorated with a foliated design.

The space above the cornice is occupied by a larger panel, also made of a single slab, surmounted by a second cornice which abuts against the coved beam of the ceiling. The upper cornice is supported by long brackets richly diapered upon the faces, with a pattern of diamonds and squares containing miniature roses.

The design upon the large panel is a curious one. The central space is occupied by an elaborate scroll, the upper part of which supports the figure of a male child, carved boldly out of the stone in full relief, with arms and legs outspread in the form of a cross. The figure is caught up in the scrolled end, which passes over the body, tabard fashion, leaving the neck and the outspread arms and legs free, the head and neck projecting through the scroll above. The lower part of the scroll is occupied by a lion's mask, situated directly below the outspread legs of the figure. A cord passes behind the head of the figure, supporting symmetrical bunches of flowers and fruit, and passing into the corners of the lion's mouth below. Behind the scroll is traced a rectangular figure having a horizontal pointed cross at either end. Beneath the upper cornice runs a dentilled pattern in the form of small acanthus leaves.

The wall to the left of the fireplace goes back to form a recess four feet in depth, ten feet in length, and eight feet in height, entirely panelled with dark oak. It contains a mullioned Elizabethan window of three lights with quarried panes.

The ceiling of the recess is decorated, opposite the window, with three fleurs-de-lis arranged to form the three sides of a square. The remaining surface of the wall, between the top of the recess and the coved beam of the ceiling, is ornamented with three large Tudor roses, and a tree upon which grow three smaller roses.

The character of the decoration of the large drawing-room, as well as that of the small drawing-room on the lower floor,

and a section of the passage upon which it opens, leaves little doubt of the period to which they belong. The ceilings present examples of the finest plaster work characteristic of the sixteenth century, whilst the presence of the heraldic pomegranates assigns them definitely to the brief reign of Mary, daughter of Henry VIII. by Catherine of Aragon, through whom the device was first introduced into English decoration. The large drawing-room was doubtless intended to serve as a reception room. The symbolic treatment of the fireplace would seem to indicate that the then owner of the Abbey was connected with the mysterious and powerful body of philosophers known as the Rosicrucians.

A door is set in the panelling of the recess, between the window and the angle of the chimney opening upon a small modern room used as a study. It measures eighteen feet by fourteen feet and is eight feet high ; has a fireplace and a single sash-window overlooking the flower-gardens on the western side. This room corresponds with the morning-room attached to the dining-room below.

Bedrooms, etc.

The first of these opens upon the section of the passage between the large drawing-room and the felted dividing door. It is a large comfortable room, measuring twenty feet by sixteen feet and nine feet high. It has two Jacobean windows on the north side, overlooking the front lawn, and a large modern fireplace. It corresponds with the small drawing-room below. This bedroom has double doors, the outer one being felted.

Beyond the dividing door of the passage, on the left-hand side, are the stairs leading to the servants' attics, the dressing-room of the first bedroom, and a second bedroom known as the blue room. The latter measures eighteen feet by sixteen feet and is eight feet high. A large old beam crosses the ceiling from north to south. There are two north windows

of Tudor date, each having three lights, and a large stone-framed fireplace of the same date on the eastern side. The flooring is of old oak in excellent condition. This room corresponds with the 'Adam' room below.

The dressing-room lies between the two bedrooms, with a door opening upon the passage and another communicating with the first bedroom.

Next to this room is the staircase leading to the attics. The stairs are composed of solid baulks of oak fixed in place by stout wooden pegs. Some of the baulks measure eight inches deep and have three feet of width exposed.

The attics lie on either side, at the top; one over the blue room, the other over the first bedroom. They are spacious and roomy, and the exposed roof beams, fixed with stout oak projecting pegs, produce a picturesque effect. They are lighted by skylights and dormers. That above the blue room has a window set in the eastern gable wall overlooking the front.

A door opens from the attic above the first bedroom, giving access to the space over the large drawing-room. Here, above the vault of the great ceiling, the beams form a perfect network. The space is illumined by three old windows, one upon the western gable wall, and the other two on the southern gable wall overlooking the quadrangle. At this, the southern, side there is a well formed by the lowering of the ceiling of the landing outside the large drawing-room door. It forms a compartment measuring six feet by twenty feet and six feet in depth, which, roofed in, would include one of the windows overlooking the quadrangle. This window is of Tudor shape and placed in an unobtrusive position, and the space is believed to have been used as a priests' hiding-place.

At the end of the passage lie the two bathrooms fitted with hot and cold water, a hot press for linen, and every convenience. They are situated above the kitchen.

UPPER STORY (EAST WING)

The east wing is reached by a door on the right-hand side of the upper main passage opposite the blue room. It consists of the studio, preceded by a bedroom and a passage. The passage is fourteen feet long, has a window overlooking the quadrangle, and is separated from the bedroom by a wooden partition. The bedroom measures fourteen feet by ten feet, and has a window facing east overlooking the croquet lawn. There is also a fireplace.

Both bedroom and passage are very lofty, reaching to the roof. They correspond with the lavatory attached to the refectory below; and, with the refectory, study, and lavatory, formerly constituted the hospitium.

The Studio

The studio measures thirty-seven feet by twenty-one feet, and extends upwards to the height of the roof ridge. It has three large recessed windows on the east side, and a door leading, by means of a wooden bridge, to the croquet-lawn. A smaller window of two lights, with flat Tudor arches, is set high up in the south gable wall; and two skylights are let into the eastern side of the roof. There is a large fireplace at the south end, and, in addition, the room is fitted with two stoves and hot pipes.

This room has recently been subjected, at great expense, to extensive alterations and repairs by the late owner. The ceiling, a low one, was removed, increasing the height as much again, and exposing the massive beams and rafters to view with striking effect. When possible the old timbers were used for these repairs, after being scraped down to the solid and coated with carbolineum, and the new timbers introduced were roughly dressed with an adze to harmonise with them. The restoration was carried out upon Elizabethan lines. The walls are lined with cement, pointed to imitate stonework.

At the inner or north end a small stage has been erected, with front, curtain, drop-scenes, back-scene, footlights, and all the requisites for private theatricals. The front is painted in panels to resemble relief-carving, representing old English sports and pastimes, with heraldic shields between the panels. The curtain presents a picture of the Abbey as it was in monastic times, reconstructed upon authenticated lines. There are two drop-scenes; the one representing a terrace overlooking an Italian lake, with mountains in the distance; the other an Elizabethan street with houses and shops. The back-scene is painted on the wall and represents an interior. The scenes have side-wings to match them. The stage measures eight feet six inches by fifteen feet, and rises gradually from the front to the back. The scenery, etc., are the work of Mr. Hume Nisbet, prepared for the use of the Beckington Musical and Dramatic Society, a society formed by Mr. and Mrs. Nisbet to provide amusement for the villagers during the winter months.

UPPER STORY (WEST WING)

This portion comprises the library, two bedrooms, one with a dressing-room, an attic store-room, the pigeon loft, and w.c. opening upon the passage to the right of the landing.

The Library

The library, or study, measures seventeen feet by sixteen feet and is nine feet high. Its chief feature is a handsome ceiling of sixteenth century workmanship, ornamented with broad, deep wooden mouldings arranged in an intricate geometrical pattern of eight pointed stars, rhomboids, and diamonds. The rich effect of this ceiling is enhanced by a frieze of carved oak of fourteenth century workmanship at the west side, representing allegorical female figures crowned with flowers and surrounded by foliage, into which the

extremities of the figures merge. The frieze, unfortunately, is incomplete, stopping half the length of the room. The remaining half is carried on by panels of Jacobean date. Panels and frieze are finished by a dentilled cornice.

The fireplace is situated on the west side. Chimney-piece and overmantel are of dark oak (modern) made into panels, with a wide moulded shelf. On either side of the fireplace, occupying the remaining wall-space, are Tudor windows with pointed arches and leaded panes. That on the left has a single light; the right-hand window has three. The wall to the right, including the window recess, is sheathed in Jacobean oak panelling with mouldings mitred on the solid. Between the window and the fireplace the panelling is augmented by two carved and grooved pilasters of oak, reaching from the floor to the frieze. The library corresponds with the servants' hall and pantries below.

Bedrooms, Attics, etc.

The passage turns at a right angle at the corner of the library and continues for a distance of twenty-two feet, ending in a W.C. On the left-hand side of the passage, where the latter turns, there is a fine sixteenth century door of oak, with panels carved in a foliate Renaissance design. The carving is executed with very little modelling, the chief effect being obtained by the sinking of the background. The mouldings are mitred on the solid.

The door leads, by means of a short flight of stairs and a landing, to the first bedroom, the attic store-room, and the pigeon-loft.

The bedroom measures fourteen feet by fifteen feet, and has a window overlooking the quadrangle. It corresponds with the wash-house below and, with the latter, constitutes the remains of the monastic kitchen. The outlines of the chimney, a Tudor addition, may be traced in the formation of the wall of the bedroom and the landing beyond.

The attic and pigeon-loft belong to the oldest features of the building, the latter being the pigeon-loft of the monks. They are situated above the second bedroom and its dressing-room.

Beyond the carved door in the passage is a door opening upon a winding staircase leading to the store-room or cellar below. The well of this staircase is circular, and can be traced upward to the pigeon-loft.

The second or guest bedroom lies, with its dressing-room, to the left of the staircase door at the end of the wing. These are large, comfortable, light rooms, the windows of which face west overlooking the flower-gardens. The bedroom lies beyond the dressing-room, by means of which it is entered. It measures nineteen feet by fourteen feet, is ten feet high, and has a fireplace. The dressing-room is seventeen feet by twelve and ten feet high.

There are in all thirty rooms in the Abbey, including attics, store-rooms, etc. All of the rooms are fitted with Carmien gas.

Further information with regard to the price, etc., of this freehold property may be obtained from Messrs. A. G. & N. G. HEAVEN, Solicitors to the estate, 9 John Street, Bristol, or from the Estate Agents, Messrs. ARMITAGE BROS., 18 Clifford Street, Bond Street, London, W., and Messrs. POWELL & POWELL, Bath.

WORKS OF REFERENCE USED IN THE PAMPHLET

Doomsday Book.	
Bygone Somerset	J. C. WALTERS.
Myths and Worthies of Somerset .	C. J. BOGIR.
Somerset Religious Houses . .	W. A. J. ARCHIBALD.
History and Antiquities of Somerset	J. COLLINSON.
The Somerset Roll	A. L. HUMPHREYS.

Etc.

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at the Edinburgh University Press

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

REPORT, 1914.

THE Committee have pleasure in stating that the full complement of members has been kept up; in fact, as mentioned in previous Reports, there are always candidates waiting for vacancies, this year it has been more pronounced than usual, a few having been waiting admission since March.

Commencing the year with the full list, vacancies have been caused by one death, which occured during the last week of 1913 after the report for that year was in type, and twelve resignations; fourteen elections bringing the total to 171, one extra being admitted owing to his being a member of the Parent Society.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution on Tuesday, March 10th, Earl Waldegrave, Vice-President, in the chair. It will be seen by the Report that in addition to the usual business the Rev. E. H. Bates-Harbin attended, as representating the Parent Society, to place before the members the programme proposed to be carried out during that Society's visit to Bath in the following June.

Two of our members—the Rev. Ethelbert Horne and Mr. Gerald Grey—having kindly offered to give lectures on "Scratch Dials" and "Grotesque Gargoyles" respectively, the Committee gave their full consent and made all necessary arrangements. The first was given at the Literary and

Scientific Institution on January 15th at 3 o'clock, and the second at the same place and hour on February 19th. They were thoroughly well illustrated by lantern slides and were greatly appreciated by the audience, who filled the room on both occasions. In the circular issued in 1903, at the formation of this Branch, the reading of papers was advocated but without response until now. The Committe ask any Member who is prepared to deal with a subject within the province of this Society to communicate with the Hon. Secretary.

Six excursions had been arranged for the season, but the two for September and October were given up owing to the war. The four carried out are described in these proceedings; they were well attended and in every way most successful, the weather fortunately being propitious on each occasion. Mr. Gerald Grey, Excursion Secretary, had as usual made complete arrangements, giving special attention to the need of an efficient guide at each place visited to explain the chief points of interest. The Committee have to thank Miss Rodman and Miss M. Blathwayt for a considerable number of photographs taken during the excursions, a few of these have been selected and are reproduced.

This number of the Proceedings contains less matter than usual owing to the cancelling of two excursions and there being no explorations to record. The Committee are pleased to have been favoured with the following notes, which they trust will be acceptable to Members, especially so as nearly all are illustrated, thus adding to the interest of the subjects.

Rev. Ethelbert Horne on Scratch Dials on Churches in this District, with four illustrations.

Mr. Gerald Grey on Grotesque Gargoyles, six illustrations.

Mr. F. Bligh Bond, F.R.I.B.A., on discoveries at the Bath Abbey, with sketches.

Professor F. Haverfield on Roman Sculpture at Nettleton Scrub. Illustration reproduced from 1912 Proceedings.

Mr. Thos. S. Bush on a stone coffin with skeleton discovered at Hodshill, Southstoke, illustrated by photographs taken by Mrs. Hignett, with a report on the skeleton by Dr. King Martyn.

Mr. Thos. S. Bush on discoveries at the Royal Mineral Water Hospital.

Mr. A. J. Taylor, M.S.A., on a stone coffin with skeleton found in the Sydney Gardens.

The Committee have to thank the Hon. Treasurer for his careful attention to the accounts, which have been duly audited by Mr. Isgar, and will no doubt be considered most satisfactory. They will be found at the end of these Proceedings.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution on Tuesday, March 10th, 1914, at 3 o'clock. Present: Earl Waldegrave in the chair, the Revs. H. H. Winwood, R. M. Perks, Ethelbert Horne, F. H. Mules, G. S. Cuthbert, C. D. Crossman, D. Lee Pitcairn, G. Howard Biggs, and F. C. Bayliss, Major-General Bradshaw, Colonels Clayton, Leigh, Kirkwood, Light and Nash, Mr. and Mrs. Hallett, Messrs. Kemeys-Tynte, G. Norman, M. H. Scott, R. H. Goldie, F. D. Wardle, H. F. Rose, W. Tyte, E. Pryce, A. B. Pinckney, R. Isgar, A. Monnington, Gerald Grey (Hon. Excursion Secretary) and Mr. Thos. S. Bush (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer) Mrs. T. S. Bush, Mrs. Nash, Mrs. Gerald Grey, Miss L. M. Salmon, Miss E. Salmon, Miss Newham, Miss Knight, Miss. E. M. Wood, Miss Courtenay, Miss Mary Blathwayt, Miss Rodman, Mrs. Minchin, Mrs. Machell, Miss M. A. Wood, Miss Beavan and Miss Massy.

The Chairman announced that Lord Hylton, Prebendary Wadmore, Mr. Charles Foxcroft and Mr. Robert C. Bush regretted they could not attend.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman moved the adoption of the Report and Accounts (which having been printed in the Proceedings and issued to members were taken as read) and spoke in a congratulatory strain of the progress of the Branch. The fact that though the Committee had raised the maximum Membership from 150 to 170 there were still candidates waiting admission, shewed that interest in the Society continued to grow.

He remarked that in addition to the Notes on the various excursions, there is further matter under Notes with a summary

of the result of excavations on Lansdown for several years past. The illustrations attached to the excursions are good, as are also those with the plans in connection with the Notes, making the Proceedings for the past year most interestng and instructive. He hoped further explorations would be carried out this year. The Chairman then spoke of the success of the lectures delivered by the Rev. Ethelbert Horne and Mr. Gerald Grey and expressed a hope that other Members would come forward and so continue similar lectures next season.

The Rev. H. H. Winwood, in seconding, said the Society could congratulate themselves on having a good balance. He wished Bath people would take as much interest in the excavations on Lansdown as did Earl Waldegrave, who not only visited the site last year during the operations but on several previous occasions.

The adoption was carried unanimously.

The following resolutions were duly carried.

Colonel Kirkwood, in proposing that Lord Hylton be re-elected President for the ensuing year, said that Lord Hylton had been President of the Branch from its inauguration and had always taken personal interest in its work.

Colonel Leigh seconded.

Mr. Kemeys-Tynte proposed, and the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn seconded, the re-election of Earl Waldegrave, Lord Strachie and Mr. Charles T. Foxcroft as Vice-Presidents.

Rev. Ethelbert Horne proposed, and the Rev. F. H. Mules seconded, that the following form the Committee for the ensuing year: The Rev. H. H. Winwood, Colonel Clayton, Colonel Kirkwood, Colonel Leigh, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, Mr. G. Norman, Mr. F. Shum and Mr. M. H. Scott.

Mr. Norman proposed, and Colonel Kirkwood seconded, the re-election of Mr. Gerald Grey as Hon. Excursion Secretary. They each mentioned how well the excursions were arranged and carried out by Mr. Grey.

Mr. Grey having thanked the Members for again electing him, said that it was intended to carry out the following excursions this season: Camerton, Radstock and Holcombe; Trowbridge, Keevil and Steeple Ashton; Axbridge, Cheddar and Wedmore; Heytesbury, Old Sarum and Amesbury; Long Ashton, Brockley, Nailsea and Wraxall. He mentioned that he was making a study of Norman grotesques; there appeared to be many in this district.

Colonel Nash, in proposing the re-election of Mr. Thos. S. Bush as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, referred to the interest

he had always shown in the Branch from the commencement. Mr. Isgar, in seconding, said the Branch would scarcely occupy the position it did but for the interest Mr. Bush displayed in it.

Mr. Bush, having returned thanks for the confidence placed in him, said he would do his best for the welfare of the Branch. He then referred to the two lectures, which were in every way most successful. As to explorations, nothing had been definitely arranged, but there was a prospect of work being carried out on the property of Colonel Skrine.

On the proposal of Mr. Bush a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Isgar for auditing the accounts.

The Rev. E. H. Bates-Harbin, Hon. Secretary Somersetshire Archæological Society, was called upon by the Chairman to give a preliminary programme of the proposed visit of that Society to Bath on June 23rd and two following days.

Mr. Bates-Harbin said the Annual Meeting would be held in the morning of the first day, and in the afternoon visit the Roman Baths, the Abbey and Literary Institution. On that evening the reading of Papers. The second day, excursion to Bradford-on-Avon, South Wraxall Manor House, Box Quarries and St. Catharines. The third day, tour round Bath to see some of the Historic Houses and in the afternoon to Englishcombe.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Earl Waldegrave for presiding.

EXCURSIONS.

Camerton, Radstock and Holcombe.

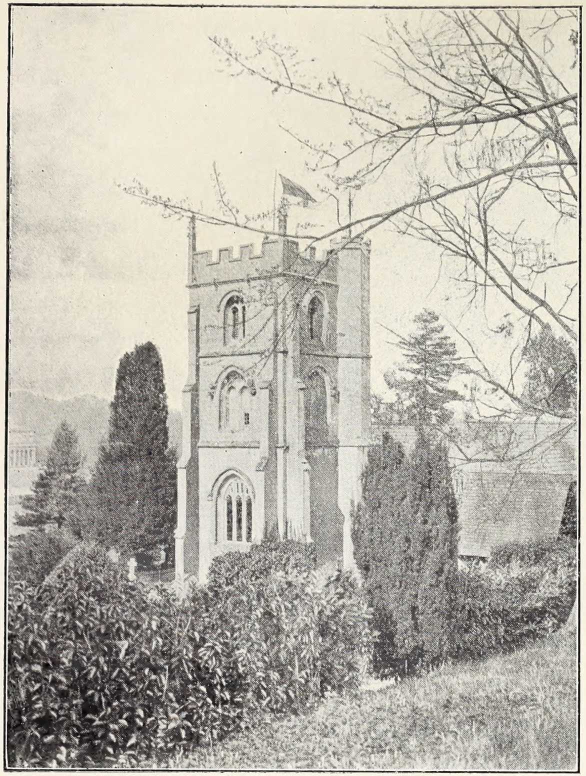
UNDER delightful conditions the first excursion of the season took place on Wednesday afternoon, April 22nd, when Camerton, Radstock and Holcombe were visited. A party of 67 made the journey in motor char-a-bancs, while several members went in their own motors.

On arrival at Camerton the members were received by the Rector (the Rev. Arthur Dewing). He pointed out that the old part of the church, dedicated to St. Peter, is an interesting late Perpendicular building consisting of a tower and nave with north porch and chancel with north chapel. The east window is pointed, the windows in the nave and chapel are square-headed. The porch has a niche for statues over the inner and over the outer arch. The tower is in three stages, each pierced with windows ; it is surmounted with a battlement and pinnacles, the buttresses terminating below the parapet. The corbels terminating the label moulding of the the windows in the tower are very curious. Over the lowest window on the north side are the heads of an elephant and a rhinoceros, sculptured to the life, and on the window above are the heads of a monk on one side and a toad on the other. The chief window on the western side of the tower has on its face a grotesque dragon and the corbels terminating the label moulding of this window contain a lady with a rosary and a knight playing a zither. The interior has been fully restored in 1891. The tower and nave date from the reign of Henry VII. The north chapel was built on the site of a chantry associated with Glastonbury Abbey. It was erected by the Carews, who were lords of the manor in the 17th and 18th centuries, and contains two handsome tombs in memory of members of the family bearing the dates 1640 and 1686.

Before leaving, the Rev. F. H. Mules voiced the thanks of the visitors to Mr. Dewing.

Resuming the journey to Radstock the church of St. Nicholas was inspected, where the Rev. H. G. Ketchley, curate, received the members in the absence of the Rector (the Rev. T. J. Gardner).

It was known that there was a church here in Norman times and its form was preserved in the present building until the lateral extension of the nave about 30 years since. The



Camerton Church.

Photos Miss M. Blathwayt.

Talboys, Keevil.

oldest part of the church is the south wall, and attached to this is the porch on which is a stone with an interesting sculpture of the Crucifixion and another outside with two figures representing the Blessed Virgin and Child. Some remains of the rood loft remain. Some years ago a plain large Norman tub font, which had been cast out of the church, was discovered in a farmyard, and by the care of a former Rector, was brought into the churchyard with a view to restoring it to its original use when the church was rebuilt. This has now been done.

Upon leaving, Mr. Ketchley was thanked for his courtesy by Mr. Grey.

The outstanding feature of the day's excursion was the visit to Holcombe. At the Church of St. Andrew the Rev. Ethelbert Horne, of Downside Abbey, gave a most interesting address upon the ancient church, now used upon the occasion of interments only.

Father Horne said:

This pathetic little church has interests attached in it that are above the ordinary. As you see it to-day, it stands alone, almost in a wood, and the village of which it was once the centre is represented by those grass-grown mounds and ridges in the fields to the south and east. The new village of Holcombe is more than half a mile away to the south and has a new parish church, built in 1885.

The name Holcombe means a combe or valley in a hole, *i.e.*, surrounded with hills, as this place is. We have close at hand, over the next ridge, the Lucombe, or warm combe (the natives still speak of getting into the "lue"), and not far beyond, the chill-combe, for it faces north, and hence Chilcompton. But I think I am to confine myself to the church, and not to the parish and surrounding neighbourhood.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, the patron saint of the diocese. I think it probable that there was a Saxon church here before the Norman one took its place, which in turn gave way to the Perpendicular one you see before you. There is one stone at least dating from Saxon times, with a portion of an inscription on it, and it suggests it may have come from a pre-Norman building. We will notice it in greater detail later. Of Norman work there is but little—the archway in the porch, and the arch at the west-end of the church, leading into the tower. The rest of the place is in the Perpendicular style, and rather poor at that.

There is only one stone, as I have said, that may have belonged to the old original church, and we can't make much

out of that, so let us begin with the Norman building, and try to reconstruct it.

First of all, imagine this church without its tower, or porch. Then the chancel, instead of being square, will be a semi-circle, of such a size that it will only just hold the altar. That is how the building would look on the outside. Inside, at the west-end, is a round-headed arch and a door in it, which is the only door in the place. At the east-end, the chancel arch is the beautiful arch in Norman dog-tooth and twisted pillars, that you see here, at the entrance to the south porch, to which place it was moved when the church was "perpendicularized." The arch was probably a little higher than it is now, but not much. Of course, the windows would have been smaller, and merely single-lights. In this shape, the church may have stood from, shall we say, the middle of the 12th to the middle of the 14th century—a period of about 300 years. By that time the little Norman church wanted restoring, and tastes and fashions had changed. The semi-circular apse at the east end, that held the altar, was pulled down, and a large square chancel, as you see it now, built in its place. Then, as of course the beautiful little round arch that was large enough to see the altar through when it only stood in the apse, was much too small to look into the large new chancel, it was pulled out, and the present large, pointed arch put in its place. Then, to be in the fashion, the church must have a tower, and so one was built at the west end. This blocked up the doorway, so a new door in the south wall was made, and a porch built over it to keep out some of the wind and rain. The old chancel arch of carved Norman work was too good to throw away, and so the builders used it up at the entrance of their new porch, where you see it to-day.

I may say, in passing, that the "angel" is not original work, but was added by a local artist some thirty-five years, or more, ago. Of course the windows were all enlarged at this restoration, and made of two lights, so that they might display plenty of glass, which by this time had become easier of manufacture, and much commoner. Of the original fittings up of the church but little remain. Of course the stone altar has gone, and the piscinia—the place for the wine and water used at mass—has gone as well. The font has been moved to the new church. It is of early date and probably Norman, but it is of so simple a design that it may easily be earlier. It almost looks as if it was intended to make two fonts out of the same block of stone, and to saw them apart afterwards, for the design is repeated in a curious way, and gives the effect of one font standing on the top of another. The seats and pulpit

now in the church are plainly Jacobean, and those that are of oak are worth taking care of, for they contain some fine pieces of panel. It will be noticed that some of these pews are square and have seats round the four sides of them.

The other "furniture" still remaining consists of two beautiful bells in the tower, and they are both pre-Reformation. The larger measures 32 inches in diameter and has the inscription + SANCTA | ANNA | ORA | PRO | NOBIS, and the initials T.G. and design, or trade-mark, of the caster. It is not known who T.G. was, but his initials are fairly common on bells in the county. The smaller bell is probably the older of the two, and has the inscription +TSELLA MARIA MARIS (Mary, Star of the Sea). You will notice in the inscription that the first two letters of the first word have been transposed, and STELLA is spelt T S E L L A. This bell is 25½ inches from lip to lip. It is possible that this bell was cast at Ash Priors, near Taunton, by the famous bell caster there, Roger S. (probably Semon ?) who made Lady-bells for Devon and Somerset. These bells are in perfect condition, except for their mountings, and are of fine tone. There is no fragment of old glass in any of the windows. The musicians gallery is a quaint piece of work, and is really picturesque, and considering how rare these are becoming, as the result of restorations, it is a curiosity. It will be noticed that the large primative cap to the Norman doorway has been shaved off on one side to give room for the stairs leading to this singer's loft. I think that this is all the description that is necessary of the building itself and its belongings.

The stone that I spoke about as being Saxon is here in the porch. The decorated capital of Norman work, if we place it at the latest, would date about 1150. Now this stone must have been an old one when the Norman carver took it in hand, and so I venture to suggest that he found it here on the spot, and that it was in a little Saxon church, which the Norman building replaced. Over the south porch door at the parish church at Farleigh Hungerford is a stone of simlar material and very similar lettering. That inscription we know is Saxon, and it reads as follows :—

> "May He who by the Cross glorifies man protect this church, and may His mother become a refuge for the needy by her prayers."

It is just possible that the inscription on the Holcombe stone may have been somewhat to the same effect. The inscription is, unfortunately, sawn through the middle, and if the other piece of stone, which is very likely somewhere in the building, could be found, the riddle might be solved. There

are four lines of inscription (which is upside down), beginning with a cross, and there are about 22 characters in it altogether.

[See photograph of the inscribed stone page 148, vol. 4 of the Proceedings.]

The first parish priest of Holcombe whose name has so far been discovered is Thomas atte Castle. He was given the living by the Abbot of Keynsham in 1344. He lived here till the fatal 1348, when he probably died in the awful plague of that year—the Black Death, as we call it—and was at once succeeded by William Chyew. He must have died directly, and then came Walter Stowe, who also fell a victim before the year was out, and so Holcombe lost three Rectors in twelve months. The line the Black Death took, when it landed on our shores, may be traced from Bath through Freshford to Holcombe and Kilmersdon, and so on across our country. Holcombe could never have been a large village, and it appears to have been completely wiped out by the plague. Over yonder, under the grass, is all that remains of the village, and so, after the last Rector died, no other was appointed for the next 15 or 16 years. It was a scene of desolation difficult to imagine, and the dead were buried in this little churchyard till they filled it up, or left unburied where they died when there was no longer left a soul alive to do the burying. The Black Death we know changed the whole face of our land—our land tenure, our agriculture, wages, social life, and customs were never the same again, and the great demoralization that set in afterwards took more than a century to heal. The interest of the old church here lies in the fact that we get an actual picture of the havoc wrought by this awful plague. Here you see this stranded parish church, romantically and beautifully situated, and yet surrounded with plague-tainted land, so that men shrink from it in horror and will not dwell by it, but found a new village away higher up the hill. Perhaps the full dreadfulness of this visitation can best be measured by the fact that, though it is fully 500 years ago since it fell on this poor little place and blasted it out of existence, its effects remain until this moment, and we can see them as we are gathered here with our own eyes.

The Rev. J. D. Wickham proposed a vote of thanks to Father Horne for his excellent address. They might, he thought, congratulate themselves that they had one who had done adequate justice to that little village and church. In former days archæological societies had come that way, but like the predecessors of the Good Samaritan they always turned away on the other side, and that, he thought, was almost the first time such a society had selected the spot for a visit. He

trusted and believed that they would carry back with them many interesting ideas and memories of that place. Their cordial thanks were due to Father Horne.

The motors were afterwards re-entered and a run was made to the Village Hall at Stratton-on-the-Fosse, where tea was partaken of. The return to Bath later ended a highly interesting afternoon.

Trowbridge, Keevil and Steeple Ashton.

THE visit to Trowbridge, etc., on Monday, May 18th, was carried out in beautiful weather. Leaving Laura-place at 11 a.m. by motor char-a-bancs, a drive of an hour brought the members to Trowbridge. At the Church of St. James the party were received by the Rector (the Rev. Percy Nash). He explained that Mr. Dudley Ryder had kindly given him some notes upon the church. From these notes we extract the following:—

Archæologists are apt to look for the oldest part of a building. They will find this in Trowbridge parish church in the Early English buttressess and what they support of the tower at the west end. Before the restoration of 1848 they would have seen a quintuple lancet window of the same early date at the east end of the chancel. The remains of this window can still be seen under the stone seats in the Rectory garden. The date of this English church is probably about 1229. From about 1229 there is no trace of any restoration for 150 years, and then we come to a great re-founding of the church, which gave the present character to it. If we take the date of this re-building to be about 1381 we find ourselves in the middle of the transition from the Decorated to the Perpendicular style. So in place of the Early English columns of which the bases were seen at the restoration of 1848 we have the present columns with Decorated capitals and Perpendicular bases. Other examples of this transition period are Edington Church, the nave of Winchester Cathedral, and the choir of York Minster. At this time the roofs were lowered. The places where the beams were then inserted in the tower were found when, in 1848, the roofs were again lowered after an intermediate heightening. The spire, still the delight of Trowbridge people, belongs to this restoration. Though it is probably thirty years later than Salisbury spire, which dates from 1350, it has the same three characteristic bands. It will be seen that in the ornament of the bands in the Trowbridge spire the fleur-de-lys is very freely used.

If the date 1381, or just after, is taken for this restoration, there is an added reason for John of Gaunt's interest in Trowbridge, because in that year his son Henry, afterwards Henry IV., married Mary de Bohun, and so became Earl of Hereford and Lord of Trowbridge Castle. The wealth of that branch of Edward of Salisbury's family would now make the costly restoration more possible and likely to be carried out, notwithstanding the fact that in 1381 the Duke's princely palace, the Savoy, had been burnt down by a mob. The prominence of the fleur-de-lys on the spire, taken together with other things, cannot be overlooked, for John of Gaunt bore the fleur-de-lys of France quartered with the lions of England. The fleur-de-lys was introduced by John of Gaunt's son, the first Lancastrian King, into his magnificent crown, and all English sovereigns have used it in their crowns since.

The weaving industry had so much prospered owing to the fostering care of Edward III. and Queen Phillippa, that the inhabitants of Trowbridge may have greatly helped the Lords of the Manor and of the Castle in rebuilding their church.

Great interest was taken by the visitors in Crabbe's monument in the chancel. The following is the inscription :—

Sacred to the Memory of
THE REV. C. CRABBE, LL.B.,
Who died on the 3rd of February, 1832, in the 78th
year of his age, and the 18th of his services as
Rector of this Parish.

In the vestry a quaint stone mantelpiece was inspected. Mr. Ryder in his notes said :—This interesting piece of stone carving is symbolical but not strictly correct in heraldry, as it became established at a later date. As in the cartouches found in Egyptian buildings, the symbols used in this carving point clearly to the people who had a principal share in the building, and to the date, in this case 1381. The Dexter panel gives the King reigning at the time, for it exhibits the badge of Richard II., the white hart couchant, gorged with a chain and crown, and only lacks the "Tree proper." Richard II. derived the white hart from the cognizance of his mother, the Fair Maid of Kent. The lion couchant guardant in the sinister panel may be an adaptation of the lion passant guardant displayed by the Company of Staple Merchants, incorporated by Edward III., who used the lion as a crest. This lion, therefore, would refer to those in the staple industry of Trowbridge who may have helped largely in the restoration of 1381. The middle panel exhibits a bicorporate lion with a sheep's head crowned. This seems clearly to point to the reunion of the two branches of Edward of Salisbury's family after a

Photo Miss Rodman.

Keevil Manor.

Photo Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

Holcombe (Old) Church.

separation of 250 years, the lioncels of each branch being represented as couchant instead of passant. The marriage of John of Gaunt's son Henry with Mary de Bohun, took place in 1381. The sheep's head may point to the industry of Trowbridge, which depended upon wool; and in Trowbridge the marriage brought the Castle and the Manor under one head. The crown seems to be an early form of an earl's coronet, and in that case the earldom of Hereford, now granted to Henry on his marriage, must be meant by the symbol. The compliment of introducing the industry of the town by this figure was quite in keeping with the custom of the time.

The visitors also spent some time in the beautiful Baptistry of the church, which was described by the Rector, and also inspected in the Priests' room the stone covers of two coffins.

One of the most interesting features was the visit to Crabbe's Rectory, close to the church. Mr. Nash said that Crabbe spent the last eighteen years of his life here. The Rectory grounds were afterwards inspected, and the old mulberry tree under which Crabbe sat and wrote some of his poetry, seen.

Before leaving the grounds the Rev. F. H. Mules said he had been requested by the visitors to express their thanks and gratitude to Mr. Nash for the kind manner in which he had received them and interested them that day, both at his church and at his beautiful old house and garden. He was sure that he took a great interest in it and it was refreshing to see a clergyman taking so great an interest in his church and its associations. The visitors had been well repaid for coming there, and they thanked Mr. Nash, who had, however, made them not a little envious, very heartily.

The Rev. Percy Nash, acknowledging the resolution, said if any of them would make up a little party and come from Bath any afternoon he should be very glad to show them over.

After luncheon at the "George Hotel," a start was made for Keevil.

At the church of St. Leonard, the Rev. A. T. Richardson (vicar) received the members and described its architectural features. Mr. Richardson pointed out that the original roof in the nave of the church still remained and was of a very effective pattern, the bosses being particularly noteworthy. When the whitewash was removed the roof was re-coloured as it previously was, so that they had it exactly the same as it originally was. There was no trace of any rood loft but there still remained two hooks on which was hung the Lenten Veil which screened the

altar in Lent. The pews, which were formerly six feet high, were panelled, but were cut down a foot, no regard being had to the panelling, and consequently they presented a curious appearance. They were enabled to say that the old chancel screen was of a very simple Decorative period as portions of the screen were found in 1807 serving the purpose of joists. The Priest's door in the chancel was blocked up with masonry but he re-opened the door in 1910. He quoted from an old document which showed that the Advowson of the Church cost at one time £133 6s. 8d., but there were fees to the Bishop, Dean and Chapter, Queen of England, Chancellor and various other officials amounting to £394. His comment, 'Law was an expensive business even in the middle ages," was mentally endorsed by all.

Attention was drawn to the Beach Chapel, designed by Mr. Pointing. It contained an inscription to the memory of the Right Hon. W. B. Beach, of Oakley Hall, Hampshire, and Lord of the Manor of Keevil. He was, just before his death, Father of the House of Commons.

It was clearly established last year that a church stood in a field about three-quarters of a mile from the present one. There had always been a tradition that the old church was there, and last year on 11th of March a man who was ploughing came across something like the foundation of a building. These were followed up and uncovered, and were the outlines of a church in two parts. The building was due east and west and almost in an exact alignment with Steeple Ashton Church. Two skeletons were found on the south side of the building. There were some curious ponds in the neighbourhood which were probably used in Saxon times by monks. Keevil Monastery was standing at Doomsday, and he offered some interesting speculations as to the probable building of the old church by the monks.

Before the visitors left the church the Vicar drew attention to a massive oak chest for the Parish Registers. This chest, he pointed out, had three locks and a different key was required for each. This was in order that there should be one key for the vicar and one for each of the churchwardens, so that the chest could not be opened without the knowledge of all three. Sometimes, however, although three locks were fitted to a chest one key opened the lot.

An interesting feature of this exceptionally attractive visit was the opportunity afforded of inspecting Talboys, under the guidance of the Rev. A. T. Richardson. When the members had assembled in the high roofed-hall, Mr. Richardson gave an address. The house was, he said, at present called Talboys.

It was an excellent example of a dwelling of the end of the 14th or the beginning of the 15th century; he should feel inclined to put it somewhere about the 14th. The main feature was the hall in which they then were. This part of the house was used for the meals of the household and at night served as a sleeping room for the servants, who lay on rushes strewn on the floor. The hall was originally open to the roof. The *Wilts Archæological Magazine*, 1882, stated Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, had a manor here and paid 20s. a year to Devizes Castle from 1398 to 1455. The date of Talboys house is Henry VI., 1422. The house was sold by Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, to Mr. Lambert, of Boyton. The last Fitzalan died 1540. Lord Arundel was presented to the living of Keevil in 1534."

In estimating the date of the building they must remember that chimneys were not introduced until the end of the 15th or beginning of the 16th century. The Arms in the gallery of Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, has been accepted by some as furnishing a date, but he pointed out that they were not necessarily put there when the house was built. Keevil Manor was probably part of the dowry of the Earl of Arundel, and it was probable that that was the Dower House. Mrs. Kenrich carefully restored the house and called it Church House, but afterwards changed its name to Talboys.

Colonel Clayton heartily thanked Mr. and Mrs. Eric Mackay for allowing the visitors to inspect their charming old house.

After visiting Talboys the members proceeded to the Manor House, Mr. Richardson still kindly acting as cicerone. Mr. Richardson said he thought it exceedingly probable that Talboys was the original Manor House. The house was built in 1560, when the Earl of Arundel married the sister of Richard Lambert. In 1680 Thomas Lambert sold the estate to William Beach, and it remained in the possession of the Beach family until 1911, when it was sold to General Dickson. The twelve fine ornamental yew trees which stood in the ground were, he said, supposed to have been planted at the time the house was built. They were known as the Twelve Apostles.

Colonel Light moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. A. T. Richardson for so kindly acting as cicerone, and also expressed the thanks of the visitors to General Dickson. The company cordially endorsed Colonel Light's observations, and Mr. Richardson briefly replied.

At Steeple Ashton, the Rev. E. Ponsonby Knubley gave a short history of St. Mary's Church and parish:—

This church, built of Bradford stone, is of extraordinary dignity and beauty. It consists of clerestoried nave with north

and south aisles of four bays, north and south porches—the latter two-stories—chancel with north and south chapels, and western tower with chapels on its north and south sides.

The earliest part of the church is the tower (1400-20). It is of four stages, with stair turret at the east end of the north side carried up above the parapet, which is 97 feet from the ground. The whole character of this work is Transitional. The tower was originally surmounted by a stone steeple 93 feet high, but this was destroyed, being twice struck by lightning in 1670.

The nave, with its aisles and porches, and the chapels on either side of the chancel were built in 1480-1500, Robert Long and Edith, his wife, providing the north aisle, and Walter Lucas and Maud, his wife, the south aisle. The arches of the arcades have three orders of mouldings. The aisles and chapels are vaulted in stone. The ribs are much elaborated and form an octagon in the centre of each bay. The vaulting springs from canopied niches having figure subjects (male and female) carved in the corbels. Each bay of the aisles has a four-light pointed window with outside labels, having figure-carved terminals; the bays are divided by buttresses having dwarf pinnacles on the first set-off and terminated by large octagonal ones. There is a fine series of gargoyles, which have recently been so well described by Mr. Gerald Grey. [See notes at end of these Proceedings.] The nave clerestory is lofty and has four-light transomed windows, without labels. In the east gable of the nave is a five-light transomed window, the lower part of which is built solid; the part above the transom was formerly glazed. The nave vault is constructed with oak ribs and bosses and plastered panels, all enriched with colour. It was originally intended that this vaulting should be of stone, and preparations were made for flying buttresses from the bases of the aisle pinnacles to the clerestory buttresses to resist the thrust, but only those at the north and south ends of each aisle were ever built. The reason for this alteration of plan was the lack of money, of which there are other evidences, such as the unfinished state of the stone bosses in the aisles, which are for the most part only roughed out, the absence of finials from the canopies of the niches, and the incomplete state of the north porch. This surmise is confirmed by documentary evidence, for in a Chancery suit of about 1504 the executors of Thomas Lovell, freemason, sued the executrix of the chief benefactor for a sum of money due for "certen wurkes and buildinge of and in the pishe curche of Stepull Assheton."

The chancel was raised and the eastern wall rebuilt in 1853. It is much to be regretted that when this was done the

last vestige of the 13th century church, to which the tower was built, was destroyed.

The old glass in the windows, in spite of its fragmentary character, is of exteme beauty, and it helps to date absolutely when the aisles were built. In some of the heads of the lights are the white rose of the House of York and the rayed sun. As Edward IV. died in 1483 they were there before that date. In the east window of the south chapel are two figures, which are variously interpreted to represent either St. Edward the Confessor and St. Edmund the Martyr or Christ and His Bride, the Church. In the original scheme there was a groundwork of quarry glass with a single figure in each light. Traces of some of these remain—a mitre, a pastoral staff, a hand held up to bless, some jewelled embroidery of vestments. There are also represented in the upper lights the emblems of the four Evangelists, the five wounds of Christ, the Coronation of Our Lady, the emblems of St. George, St. Andrew, St. Peter and St. Paul, and a chalice with wafer.

The Vicars have been traced to 1252. The Registers begin in 1538, and the Churchwardens' Accounts date from 1543.

The Manor of Ashton belonged to Alfred the Great. It was given by Edgar the Peaceable to Romsey Abbey, which held it till the dissolution of the Monasteries, when it passed into the hands of Thomas Seymour, Lord Sudely, the Lord High Admiral. When he was beheaded it reverted to the Crown, and remained a Royal Manor till the reign of Charles II. He sold the advowson to the Martyns, from whom it was acquired by the Rev. Drue Drury, and by him it was left by will to Magdelene College, Cambridge, the present patrons and rectors. The Right Hon. W. H. Long, M.P., is now Lord of the Manor and the principal land-owner in the parish.

The Manor House is a charming old residence with gate pillars to the forecourt, and a splendid copper beech in front. The main building is Jacobean, but incorporated with it are the remains of an Elizabethan house. In the garden is a very remarkable old red brick granary standing on high stone columns, which dates from the sixteenth century. The house, which is now empty, was inspected with interest.

Mr. Kemeys Tynte voiced the thanks of the visitors to Mr. Knubley, and also asked Mr. Soames, who motored over to meet the members from Rood Ashton, to convey to Mr. Walter Long, M.P., their thanks for permission to visit the Manor. They had had an exceptionally interesting day, and he congratulated Mr. Grey upon having had such a large number join the excursion. They had been favoured with delightful

weather, and, speaking as one of the original members of the Society, he did not remember a more attractive excursion in the long series than the one which Mr. Grey had arranged that day.

Tea was afterwards partaken of at the "Long's Arms," and Bath was reached at 7 o'clock.

Cheddar, Wedmore and Axbridge. THIS Excursion took place on Monday, June 15th. Motor chara-a-bancs left Queen Square at 10 a.m., and after a beautiful run, *via* Chewton Mendip and the Cheddar Gorge, the famous Stalactite Caves were reached. Mr. A. G. H. Gough met the members at the entrance and conducted them through the various passages. Mr. Gough mentioned that it had been calculated that it took a thousand years to add half-an-inch to the length of a stalactite. The remains of the pre-historic man were next inspected. It is believed to be the oldest human skeleton ever discovered. The brows protrude and the forehead recedes much more than is the case nowadays. The skull has projections at the back of the temple bones, the jaw is very powerfully formed and its width is obviously in excess of that of any modern man. The projecting bones gave strength to the jaw to gnaw roots and grain. He was probably a fairly young man but was unable to stand upright. When discovered in December, 1903, the skeleton was surrounded by palæolithic flints and its great age was thus placed beyond all question.

Owing to partial destruction and incrustation with stalagmite it is possible to take only certain measurements of the skull. The nose is fairly narrow, the eye-sockets low and wide, and the lower jaw remarkably wide between its lower angles. The progniathism, or projection of the face beyond the skull (snoutiness) is very slight, and the Cheddar man did not possess the beetling brows found in the earlier prehistoric skulls of the Mousterian period. In the judgment of the observers the skull belongs to the "River-Bed Race," but it must be pointed out that this race is at present indistinguishable to the anatomist from the neolithic people who later buried their dead in the long barrows. If the association of the bones with the flint inplements is more than a coincidence it seems that people of the slight long-headed type, sometimes called Mediterranean, were inhabitants of England in the Magdalenian period and used the implements characteristic of that culture.

Re-entering the motors, after a short drive St. Andrew's Church was reached, where the Rev. W. York Fausset cordially

welcomed the society. With comparatively short time at his disposal he could not, he said, do better than give them the gist of a brief account of the church which he had compiled, and which in the main embodied the results of the researches of one of his predecessors, the Rev. Prebendary Coleman.

Originally there was a church there in Roman times. At any rate there was a church at Cheddar very early indeed in the history of Christianity. A church to St. Andrew was built at Wells, at Banwell and at Cheddar; and in all three places it was built near a stream of water, possibly taking the place of some Pagan Temple. Some Roman remains, tiles, coins, etc., had been found in the Vicarage gardens. Doomsday Book spoke of Cheddar as a Royal Estate. It was recorded in Doomsday that at the time of the great survey the King himself held "Cedre." A grant of lands from William the Conqueror to Giso, Bishop of Wells, dated 1068, mentions "Ceoddor Mynster," which was a religious house for "Brethren and Sisters" (according to the Charter of King Edgar in 998). In 1128 the church appears in a deed of presentation as "ecclesia de *Ceddrehole*." Since 1240, when Bishop Jocelyn confirmed it to the Dean and Chapter of Wells, they have been patrons of the living.

The present building is in the Perpendicular style, of which it is a very beautiful and a fairly early example. The clerestory windows suggest a transition period between the Decorated and Perpendicular styles, but some assign them to the latter half of the 14th century. The beautiful double piscina, and the chancel itself, were assigned by the well-known architect, Mr. Buckle, to the 13th century.

Within the old oak screens are side chapels; on the north is the ancient "Chauntrie of Oure Ladye," on the south the "Chauntrie of the Trynytie." The date of the former is fixed by the will of Robert de Cheddre, 1382, directing that he is "to be buried in the Chaple of St. Mary, in the parish church of Cheddar, de nova fundata ('founded anew')": and by the fact that it was established "on behalf of our present King Edward (III.) and for the benefit of his soul after his death," which took place in 1377. This chapel serves now as the organ-chamber. The small vestry beyond it, at the north-east angle, probably occupies the site of an ancient treasury (or possibly chantry); towards which a small window (now blocked) in the ancient house adjoining, looks out. The last chantry-priest of the Trinity Chapel was John Mattock, who received a pension of £4 13s. 4d. at the Dissolution of Chantries in 1548. This chapel is being restored to use in memory of the late vicar, Prebendary F. A. Clarke. Its altar is the ancient altar-table of 1631.

There is another very beautiful chantry, that of Cheddar Fitzwalter, a later addition to the church (15th century). The ancient manor of Cheddar Fitzwalter was held in the sixteenth century by the family of de Roos or Roe, whose arms are seen in a fragment of a tomb and in the south window with those of the Fitzwalters, Lancasters, and de Cheddres; and in 1792 passed into the Birch family, who held it until late in the 19th century.

The old oak panelling in choir-stalls and reading-pews comes from the old rood screen which extended across the church. The fine old stone pulpit of pre-Reformation days is one of the best examples in Somerset, coloured in the ancient manner. It may possibly have served as "*ambo*," or Gospel desk in the rood loft.

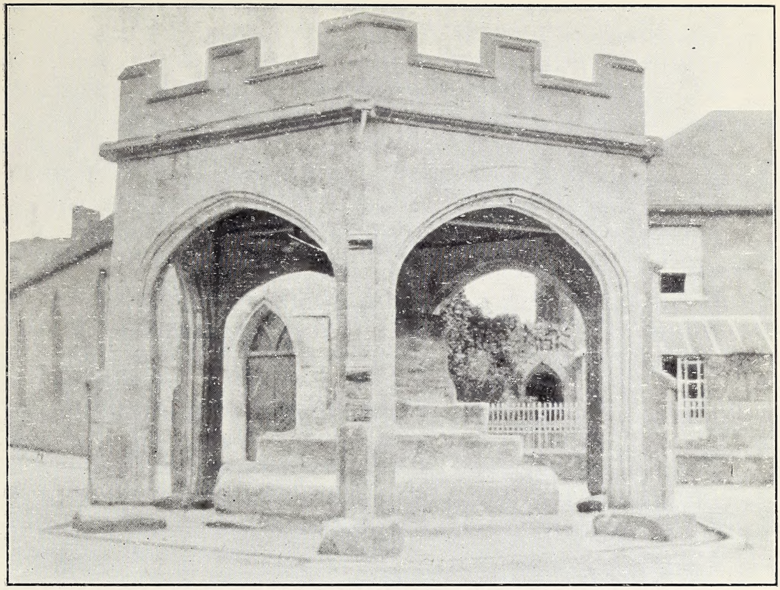
The moulded oak ceiling, which is especially elaborate over what was the rood screen, was gilded and coloured anew by Mr. Butterfield in 1873 after the old design; so, too, the angel corbels, which support its beams. Our ancient churches were rich in colour and sculptured ornament. But the geometric pattern work on the chancel arch and walls (by Mr. Butterfield) is out of keeping with the Gothic style of the church. The chancel arch, previously much lower, was raised by the same restorer.

Of the old bench heads of pews many survive. The best are in the north aisle, some indicate the sins of the Tongue, blabbing and reviling; gossiping (two women with tongues interlaced) and deceit (three faced); the "arrows of bitter words." Also a hand holding prayer-beads. One was the face of a pig, but whether that was intended to caricature a monk, or what, he did not know.

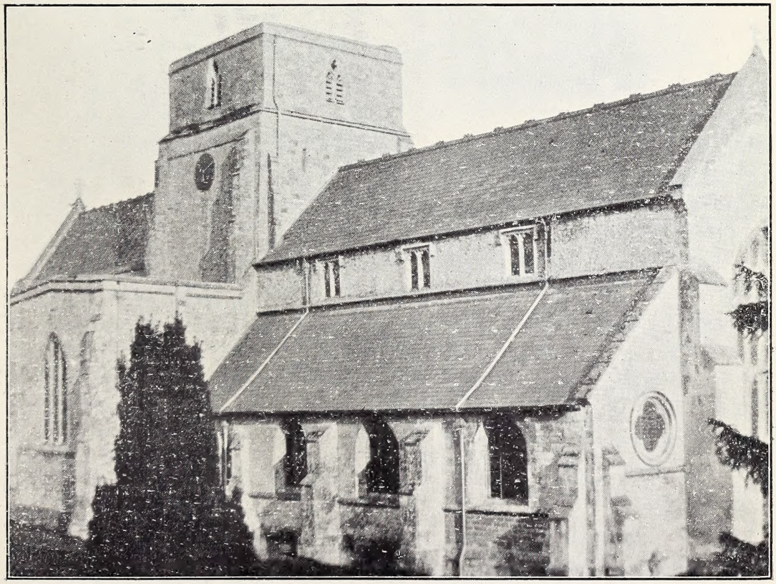
Lastly, the quaint old pictures of Death and Time under the tower were probably a post-Reformation addition to the rood-screen, taking the place of earlier work possibly considered superstitious. Father Time is portrayed in the usual manner as a venerable old man clad in flowing robes and holding a scythe, while Death is illuminated by a skeleton.

The exterior, with its beautiful open-work parapets, is invariably much admired. One corbel, at the south-east angle of the sanctuary, looks like a relic of the original Norman church. So, too, the bases of some of the octagonal pillars of the nave.

The glory of the church is its "fascinating tower, the most graceful in the county," to use the words of the late Dean of Wells, Dr. Jex Blake. It tapers slightly as it rises to its 110 feet of height. Like its sister towers of Winscombe and Banwell, it has a niche in the east, near the ridge of the nave



Cheddar.



Photos Miss Rodman.

Heytesbury Church.

roof, with the figure of the patron Saint of the church. On the west, an Annunciation in two niches on either side of a window; theAngel Gabriel, winged, holding a scroll; St. Mary with a book and a lily.

The members then adjourned to the Cliff Hotel for luncheon, where they were joined by the Rev. W. Yorke Fausset.

Before the party left for Wedmore, the Rev. Lee Pitcairn cordially thanked the Vicar for the interesting particulars he had given them of his fine old church. Mr. Yorke Fausset acknowledging the vote, regretted that the time at disposal had been so short. He had only told them half the story, but if what he said had whetted the appetite for more he was amply repaid.

At the Church of St. Mary, Wedmore, the visitors were received by the Vicar (the Rev. G. R. G. Norris). The Vicar said he should like to express the very great pleasure it was to welcome the members of the Society there, and to give them some account of the church, which was regarded as one of the most beautiful in the Diocese of Bath and Wells. He would first of all draw their attention to the pulpit, which some had thought to be Elizabethan and others Jacobean. The Dean of Wells, who was there the other day, said that without doubt it was Jacobean. The Dean pointed to the fact that the ornamentation included the thistle, which was to his mind conclusive. It was originally a three decker, comprising pulpit, reading-desk and clerk's seat. Above the pulpit was discovered upon the wall, when the plaster was removed in 1880, a remarkable painting of St. Christopher. There were distinct signs that the picture had been painted twice. The first painting was probably about 1460, and the other probably about 1520. It was a most curious combination, owing to the different painters varying the position of the figures and the scaling off of portions of one layer showing parts of the picture below. There were two child Christs, but the remarkable feature of the picture was the head of St. Christopher. Its singular position was due to the fact that the head belonged to one picture and the body to another. There was an inscription on the top which the Dean of Wells spent a long time trying to decipher, but he could not arrive at a satisfactory conclusion.

The lower part of the tower was, he continued, the oldest portion of the church, and dated from about 1200, but it was thought probable that a Norman if not a Saxon church at one time occupied the present site. The Early English church was cruciform in shape, with central tower as at present, but

later additions had nearly obliterated its original design. The Early English church was considerably smaller. The nave which had a high pitched roof was shorter and narrower, and the transepts were probably shorter. The only portion of the Early English period remaining, besides the lower part of the tower, was the inner doorway of the south porch, and even that was not in its original position, because the early building had no side aisles. Some alterations seemed to have been undertaken in the early part of the 14th century, for there was at least one window in the Decorated style in the east wall of the south-east chantry. Great alterations, however, took place in the 15th century, and the greater part of that fine old church was constructed in the bold Perpendicular style.

The church contained three chantry chapels. One of them, St. Ann's Chapel, was said to have been founded in 1509 by Dean Cosin, and still contained its piscina, which was only discovered about 1880 hidden in the wall. Attention was particularly drawn to the panelled painted roof. The paintings were intended to illustrate the verses of the Te Deum. In this chapel, at the east end, is the Hodges monument, which was considerably cut down in 1880 in order to open up the east window at the back. The monument was erected to Thomas Hodges, of Wedmore, who lost his life at the siege of Antwerp in 1585. The south-east chantry chapel contained not its original altar, but the old high altar in use in the chancel, and was discovered in 1880 buried in the ground at the east end, under the wooden altar.

There had been, the vicar remarked, a question as to whether the church was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene or St. Mary the Virgin. He had been to Wells to investigate it and had definitely ascertained that it was undoubtedly dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin and not to St. Mary Magdelene.

Their great connection was, of course, Alfred the Great. The Peace of Wedmore was signed in 901, and the celebration of the one thousandth anniversary of Alfred's death was marked by the placing of an exceedingly striking brass in the church. The brass bears the following inscription:—"Alfred the Great, at Wedmore, made peace A.D. 901—A.D. 1901.

After leaving the church the visitors inspected the handsome Market Cross. Colonel Light voiced the hearty thanks of the members to the Rev. G. R. G. Norris.

At the church at Axbridge the Rector (the Rev. Henry Toft) acted as guide. He said that the church, which is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is of great antiquity and was most probably erected upon the site of a much older edifice. The present building, the greater part of which was erected in

the early part of the 15th century, is in the Perpendicular style of architecture, with signs here and there of the Decorated period in it. A will in the muniment room at the Guildhall gives the information that the testator "desires to be buried in the south porch he has lately built." This will is dated 1429, so that the date of this portion may be accurately fixed. Mr. Toft mentioned that in those days they had not to go to Bristol, or even to Wells, in order to prove a will, but a will could be proved at Axbridge. He remembered when some learned people came to the church they said "Oh, this is the late Perpendicular period," but he was able to point to the documentary evidence he had referred to and they were surprised. One of them was the architect, John Sedding, and the other was Professor Freeman, both great authorities, but they did not know that they had that documentary evidence and therefore they were, he thought, rather guessing. He added that he believed that there had been a revolution in ideas about the Perpendicular. He believed that it began before 1429, but the church was early Perpendicular and not late.

He drew attention to the fact that the corbel heads round the nave were of two kinds, crowned heads and mitred heads, and he expressed a hope that the happy union existing between Church and State as represented by these figures would be preserved for many years to come.

Among the objects of interest pointed out by the Rector was an altar-cloth which was presented in 1720. It was said that it took a lady seven years to work, and it had been in use more or less ever since. He also drew attention to an interesting painting on a panel, of the time of Edward III. It was, he said, lent to Taunton Museum, having been found by a former rector built into a pew under the pulpit. He was sufficiently archæological to see that it was of interest, and he lent it to the museum at Taunton. It remained there for a great number of years, but eventually it was returned. He (Mr. Toft) wrote to the Curator a little time ago, to ask whether they had any information to give about it, but they had no record even of when they received it or when it was returned. They had no record, but it was returned about the time of the death of the rector. When the church was being restored, the panel, precious as it was, was not considered more than a piece of oak. It was in a lumber room, and for a long period it was lost to them. One day, the churchwardens and himself went in search and found the panel, which was part of the first rood screen, not as it was now, but very much broken and defaced. He related how the picture was restored, and then pointed out its peculiar features. It represented the

Saviour sitting upon the Throne of Glory. The arms were uneven and there was nothing for the feet to rest upon. It was the work of some untutored artist, who knew nothing about perspective, but he drew it out of pure love of Christ and of the Christian religion.

Among the brasses was one dated 1493.

The registers, of which the oldest dates from 1562, are in a good state of preservation, and there are many old documents and charters in the muniment chest in the Townhall of extreme interest.

Formerly, a beautiful market cross stood in the square, of the same style of architecture and, possibly, of the same date. It had now entirely disappeared, for in 1756 it was taken down, and the material used in building a market house. This building was in time taken down, and the material used in building the present Townhall. Mr. Toft concluded by giving an interesting account of Axbridge as a Royal Borough in connection with the Cheddar Chase, and after tea, in reply to a cordial vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Scott, he related the story of the miraculous escape of King Edmund as told in the history of St. Dunstan, whom the King appointed Abbot of Glastonbury.

The ride home, *via* Mendip, was heartily enjoyed, and brought to a pleasant close a highly successful excursion.

Amesbury, Old Sarum and Heytesbury.

BRILLIANT weather favoured this excursion on Friday, July 10th. Leaving Laura Place at 9.45 a.m., by motor char-a-bancs, a drive of about two hours *viâ* Bradford, Westbury, etc., brought the members to Amesbury, where they were met and conducted over the church by the Vicar (the Rev. Frank Windley). The following extracts from an interesting paper, which was read by Mr. Windley, is from the pen of his wife, who has made a special study of the history of the church and parish.

According to the Welsh Triads Amesbury was, in British times, the seat of a great monastery for 300 Monks—"the Choir of Ambrosuis" or "Ambrius." This was one of the three principal "Choirs" of the Isle of Britain "which perpetuated the praise of God without rest or intermission." This monastery was eventually destroyed by the cruel pagan Gurmundas or Guthran who overran all this country in the 6th century. In 1177 the nuns of Amesbury brought upon

themselves the anger of King Henry II. owing to their ill-conduct and unworthy lives; they were expelled and the Abbey given over to the great Convent of Fonteveault in Anjon of which it then became a "cell," and from which it received a Prioress and 24 nuns. Finally after much resistance this celebrated Abbey shared in the general dissolution of the religious foundations in the reign of Henry VIII., the last Abbess (for the "cell" of Amesbury had once more in course of time become denizen in an "Abbey") being named Joan Darell. Many of the buildings were destroyed, and the remainder given by the King to the Earl of Hertford, Protector of Somerset. At the present time nothing remains standing of the monastic buildings and it is a modern house, replacing one of Inigo Jones' buildings, which stands now on the site of and bears the name of Amesbury Abbey.

The Abbey Church, however, remains to us, though shorn of its glory. The cloisters are gone, two of the side chapels have long disappeared, the spire on the church tower was taken down, the work of destruction being begun on Good Friday, 1540, and some forty feet of the west end of the nave done away. Still the church as we see it to-day possesses much of great interest. Saxon times are recalled by the relic preserved in a glass case in the church the head of a large cross of the 8th century, and an opening left in the wall beside the N.W. pier supporting the tower shows a fragment of a very early pillar discovered in the Norman wall which, if Saxon, provides a valuable link with the Church of Queen Elfrida's day. The oldest part of the church (apart from this fragment) is the Norman nave, high in the walls of which may be seen the original windows, now blocked up, round-headed and deeply splayed. The south wall was originally, of course, the outside wall, though pierced through in the 15th century for the addition of the south aisle. In the north wall the Norman windows have been cut into and replaced by Perpendicular windows, but looked at from the outside of the church the original outlines are clearly seen. A further survey from outside will be rewarded by what more remains to be seen of Norman work. There is the Corbel table running under the roof on the north side of the nave, as it also does on the south side, though it is more difficult to trace on the south side owing to the addition of the aisle. Further, beyond the N.W. corner of the church may be found a particularly beautiful fragment of a ruined cluster of pillars, 13th century late Norman work, which may have formed part of a doorway leading from the church of Norman days (with its longer nave) into the Cloister Garth. The cloister itself was on the north

side of the nave (as also is the case at Canterbury and Gloucester, which, like Amesbury, were Benedictine foundations) and the line of the weathering of the cloister roof may still be seen, and one or two old corbels which supported the beams, partly hidden by ivy.

To return to the interior of the church, the Early English work must next be noticed, the chancel and the transepts, with their finely characteristic lancet windows, and the piers and arches supporting the central tower. One of these piers, the south-western one has been ornamented later with Perpendicular work. The side walls of the chancel, as in the case of so many cruciform churches, deflect considerably towards the north. There were originally three 13th century side chapels opening out of the transepts, but one only now remains. This is a beautiful instance of Early English work with its double lancet windows, stone vaulting and double piscina. The "Decorated" or 14th century period is represented in the church by some interesting work. Two fine windows in the chancel, that on the south side being the earlier and that on the north the later of the two. In the latter the tracery is flamboyant in character, and beautiful and varied in design, both trefoils and quatrefoils being used, and the hood mould is terminated by ball flower ornaments. But, more beautiful than the stonework of the Perpendicular period in this church is the woodwork. The screen (1450 circa) is particularly interesting and has seen many vicissitudes, having been turned out of the church for some 60 years and then recovered and restored. There are traces of two small side altars having stood against the screen on each side of the gates, and traces also of choir stalls on the east side. The tracery of the screen is very charming and unusual in some of its details, especially in its cuspings. It would originally have had its rood loft above as the holes for the beams and supports still shew. The nave and transept roof are also of the same date, apparently, as the screen. That of the nave is of chestnut wood, and when seen in an advantageous light, full of interesting and curious carving. The head on the corbel next to the last on the west end is said to represent the Romano-British king, Aurelius Ambrosius, from whose name "Ambrosius," Amesbury, the ancient Ambrose bury or Ambres beria, took its name. This king succeeded Vortigern as king of Britain in 465.

Another treasure recovered within the last few years and restored to its place in the church is the ancient font, which had been destroyed and the pieces buried beneath the chancel floor. It has a Norman bowl of Purbeck marble mounted on a stone base of later period with deep sculptured panels.

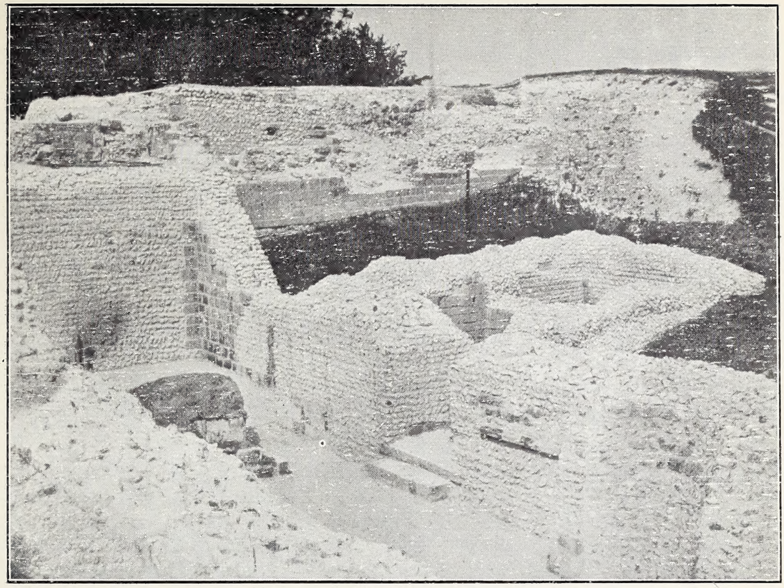


Photo Miss M. Blathwayt.

CELLAR, E. SIDE, GREAT TOWER, OLD SARUM.

Photo Miss Rodman.

GROUP OF PILLARS, AMESBURY.

When being restored distinct marks were found beneath the bowl, showing that originally it had stood on four round pillars. There are traces on the upper surface of the bowl of of ancient fastenings of a cover.

The party afterwards lunched at the George Hotel, Amesbury, where Mr. M. H. Scott heartily thanked the Rev. F. Windley and asked him to convey their thanks to Mrs. Windley for her extremely interesting paper. After luncheon a short drive brought the members to Old Sarum.

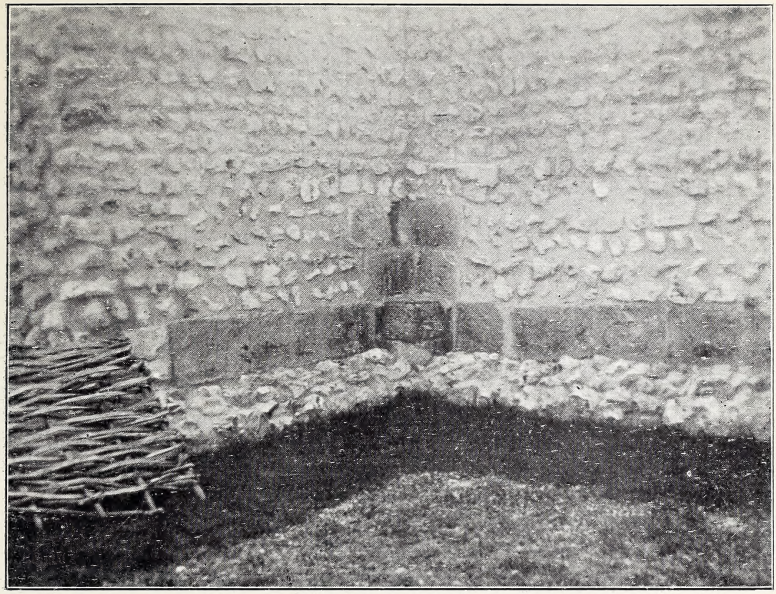
In the ancient gateway of the castle the visitors were met by Colonel Hawley, who pointed out the position where the guard rooms originally stood, and also showed where the sentries sat. The principal feature of the place in former times was, he said, a large square tower, called the dungeon or keep which had a corridor running round it. Although the Roman roads converged close by he did not think that there was anything Roman on the hill. It was too high up for the Romans who liked a comfortable place. It was quite likely that the roads were Early British strengthened by the Romans. The castle was surrounded by a very large moat stockaded. The original deeper earth works of the castle might be of the Early Iron Age or even earlier. Sarum seemed to have been a place of note in Saxon times ; coins of Edward the Conqueror and others were believed to have been struck there. The castle seems to have been kept in repair throughout the 14th century, but with the invention of artillery it eventually became useless as a defensive work. The visitors walked around the ramparts of the castle from whence a fine view could be obtained of the extensive foundations of the cathedral. Old Sarum, it should be mentioned, has been placed in accordance with the Ancient Monuments Act, under the control of the Government, by whom the castle area with its buildings and defences have been systematically explored. The tower was of very solid construction with a rectangular chamber in the middle. There were a number of rubbish pits when the occupants of the castle vacated it for the valley where Salisbury now stands. They razed the buildings to their foundations leaving little standing to give any idea of their former disposal and grandeur.

Five out of the seven pits have afforded a collection of interesting objects. Several complete specimens of rough potsherds were recovered, these included some small cooking pots of round shape, the bottoms being so rounded that when placed on the fire they had the maximum of heat without pressing on and smothering the embers. They are much blackened, in reality they are of a coarse red ware, as were

some of the jugs which seemed to have been used for the same purpose as the pots. The better jugs of glazed or partly glazed ware vary in colour through red and greys to brown. A considerable number of coloured glass fragments was found in some of the pits, including a small massed collection of window fragments. Prisoners were thrown into the rubbish pits and a number of skeletons were found.

In reply to a question, Colonel Hawley stated that the well of the castle was 200 feet deep, and there was another 300 feet deep. Tenders for re-opening them ranged from £700 to £250. From the ramparts of the castle, as already mentioned, a very clear view could be obtained of the outlines of the cathedral.

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope in his report to the Society of Antiquaries (issued June, 1914) upon the excavation in connection with the cathedral, recalled that the broad outline of the church had been noted as far back as 1835, and was partly confirmed by excavations in the following year. In a brief historical surview he says that "The transfer of the bishopric of Sherborne to Old Sarum in accordance with the edict of the Council of London of 1075, which directed the transfer of episcopal sees from villages to more populous places, involves not only the suggestion, but the probability that there already existed at Old Sarum a church into which the bishop's stool could be transferred." Simeon, of Durham, says the cathedral was "hallowed" with the help of Walkelin, Bishop of Winchester, and John, Bishop of Bath, on Monday, 5th April, 1092. Five days after the church had been consecrated it was struck by lightning and seriously damaged. William of Malmesbury, writing of the events in the fifth year of King William Rufus, says that the violence of the lightning utterly threw down the roof of the tower of the church and shook down much of the walling. Many traces of this catastrophe have come to light during the recent excavations in the shape of scorched and reddened stones and pieces of moulded work, used up as rubble in the later walling of the church. It was in or about 1227 that the ecclesiastical and most of the civil population moved from Old Sarum to the new church and city in the plain below. In 1330 a gift was made by the King to the Bishop and to the Dean and Chapter of Salisbury, of all the stones of the old cathedral church of Old Sarum and of the house within the king's castle there, which the bishop and canons of that church formerly occupied, for the repair of their church and for the enclosure of the precinct of the same. The church and all the buildings annexed to it were accordingly razed to the ground, and the site of them became practically a waste place.



NORMAN BASE, CHAPEL, OLD SARUM.

Photos Miss Rodman.

BACK OF TOWER, OLD SARUM.

Last year various trenches were cut across the nave in the hope of finding traces of the earlier buildings; nothing, however, was found with the exception of a little pre-Roman British pottery and part of a bronze brooch of the same date. The discoveries last year included parts of several coffins and gravestones including a fine coffin of unpolished Pirbeck marble which contained the skeleton of a priest with a pewter chalice. More than a dozen other tombs and coffins were found. The clearing of the cloister alleys brought to light some interesting illustrations of the way in which the buildings were destroyed. Large cavities had been cut in the masonry and props of wood inserted as the work proceeded. Then these had been set on fire, and as they burnt through the walling above subsided into the hollows in fractured masses or was overthrown in bulk. Towards the east end of the presbytery lie two overthrown lengths of wall core, from behind which were recovered quite a number of carved and moulded stones as well as ashlar blocks. After noticing the collection of carved heads in varying degrees of grotesqueness, the last report to the Society of Antiquarians says a more remarkable discovery is that of quite a considerable quantity of pieces of verdi-antico and red porphyry of various sizes. These materials are so rare in this country, Westminster and Canterbury (both at Christchurch and St. Augustine's Abbey) being the only other known places of their occurrence, that it would be very important to say how they could have been used here. They were, however, so scattered about that this is impossible. There was, moreover, no shrine or important tomb here that we are aware of, yet these precious materials were used in a church that was destroyed before the Canterbury and Westminster works were begun! One other singular discovery deserves notice, this time within the church. During the clearance of the north end of the ambulatory the remains of several human skeletons were found lying on the floor level in such a way as to suggest that they had been thrown out of stone coffins when the church was destroyed. With one of these skeletons was deposited a wonderfully perfect set of leg irons, consisting of two closing rings which were still rivetted and connected by two long and one round link. The unfortunate man had evidently been buried in his fetters. He must have been a person of note, or he would not have received burial at the hands of the Canons in an honourable part of their church.

Colonel Hawley explained that they had not excavated the Cloister. There would be no burials there because the cemetery was in the south side and was full of interments.

The graves had been disturbed during the middle ages presumably to find lead coffins which were utilised to make leaden bullets. There were a great many stone coffins, one of them being that of a man named Godwin who was Precentor there about the end of the 12th century.

The Rev. Lee Pitcairn, who had visited the site before the excavations had scarcely commenced in earnest, in voicing the thanks of the visitors to Colonel Hawley, expressed warm appreciation of the archæological value of the work accomplished.

At Heytesbury the visitors were received by the Vicar, the Rev. Arthur Clutsom, and after tea at the Angel Hotel the church was visited. The vicar said the present building, dedicated in the name of SS. Peter and Paul, is on the orthodox cruciform plan, fully developed. As this is the usual Norman plan there is little doubt that the church mentioned in Doomsday Book, as held by Alward the Priest, formed the plan of the present edifice, which consists of a nave and four bays with N. and S. aisles and with tower at the crossing. Both base and chancel have clerestories. About 1165, on the petition of Roger the Archdeacon, the church was made collegiate, and confirmed by Royal Charter to St. Mary's Church of Salisbury. The Chapter consisted of the Dean of Salisbury and four Prebendaries, *i.e.*, Tytherington, Hill Deverill, Swallowcliffe, and Horningsham. The only Norman portions now remaining are the N. and S. arcades of the chancel, which are quite late and verging on Early English (about 1185). The chancel arcades have pointed arches, but the labels or dress stones over the arches are modern and misleading. The eastern part of the chancel, together with the lower stage of the tower, the two transepts, the east end of the nave, and its aisles and arcades were rebuilt in the 13th century. The clerestory of the chancel was also added at that date. It is worth noting that the clerestory windows are placed between the arches and not over them as is usually the case. In the south-east of the Sanctuary there is a 15th century piscina, circular in form but under a square headed recess. Its low position seems to show that there was no elevation at the east end and that the existing level is a modern improvement. The transepts are particularly interesting. The walls and buttresses of the north transept and much of the east and south are 15th century. The south has a carved doorway leading into the chancel aisle, and a string course is carried along the east wall. There are also remains of a window outside. Both transepts were apparently remodelled in the 15th century.

One of the most interesting things about the church is the Chantry Chapels. There is a little uncertainty about the actual number and sites of the Chantry Chapels formerly in the parish church at Heytesbury. Two are mentioned in the Registers of the Dean of Sarum, and both as in the *south* part of the church, St. Mary's and St. Katharine's, founded by one William Mounte (in 1316-17). About A.D. 1300, a Chantry at the altar of St. Mary V. in the south part had been founded by Lucy Clyfton, widow of Gaudinus de Albo Monasterio, of which we have the seven successive chaplains. This appears to have been the one that came into the possession of the Hungerfords, who first presented in 1408.

Afterwards St. John's Hospital was visited. Mr. Scott thanked Mr. Clutsom for his interesting notes. The Vicar briefly acknowledged the compliment, and said he wished that they could have remained in Heytesbury longer. It had been a great pleasure to him to receive them. After an enjoyable run, *via* Warminster, Bath was reached before 7.30.

RULES.

1. This Branch shall be called "THE BATH AND DISTRICT BRANCH."

2. The District of the Branch shall be within the area from Brislington south to Chewton Mendip, thence east to Beckington, from there following the County Boundary round the north of Bath and back to Brislington.

3. The Branch shall be managed by a Committee consisting of a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, eight Ordinary Members and two Secretaries, one of whom shall also be Treasurer. The whole shall go out of office annually, but may be re-elected. Three shall form a quorum.

NOTE.—Members of the Council of the Parent Society who are Members of the Branch are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

4. The Committee shall be chosen at a General Meeting, which shall be held in the month of March in each year, on a day to be fixed by the Committee. Casual vacancies may be filled up by the Committee, who may appoint sub-Committees for any general or special purposes.

5. Special General Meetings may be called by the Committee or on the requisition of five Members. Seven clear days' notice of such meeting and its object shall be sent to every Member.

6. The Committee shall arrange for visits to be made to objects of antiquarian, etc., interest within the District or within easy access therefrom, of which notice shall be sent to Members. Except in special cases, Members shall make their own arrangements for attending, and pay their own travelling or other expenses. Fees to attendants at Churches, etc., shall be paid out of funds of the Branch. Meetings at different places in the district for papers and discussions may be arranged by the Committee.

7. The Subscription to the Branch shall be 5/- per annum for Ladies or Gentlemen, and become payable in advance in January. Any Member in arrear shall not be allowed to join any of the excursions or take part in any of the proceedings of the Branch. Members may introduce a friend to any of the excursions, or when a paper is read. No person residing within the District shall be introduced oftener than once in two years. Members of the Parent Society are entitled to become Members of the Branch, on payment of their Subscription, without ballot.

8. Members shall be elected by the Committee by ballot. Three fourths of those voting shall decide.

9. The Rules of the Parent Society shall be considered as governing the Branch as to all matters not herein provided for, in the same manner as if such Rules were here repeated.

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

1914.

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(* Are also Members of the Parent Society.)

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1909 Bulleid Mrs., Cleeve Hill House, Midford.
1903 *Bush Robert C., Esq., 1, Winifred's Dale.
1903 *Bush Thos. S., Esq., 20, Camden Crescent.
1903 Bush Mrs. Thos. S., 20, Camden Crescent.

1906 Casey Miss, 61, Combe Park.
1905 Cave Mrs., 20, Circus.
1912 Chope Mrs., 10, Mount Beacon.
1903 Clayton Colonel Emilius, Charlcombe Manor.
1903 Clayton Mrs., Charlcombe Manor.
1911 Colomb Mrs,, 17, Darlington Place.
1904 Cooke Miss M. A. H., Lonsdale, Combe Down.
1912 Courtenay Miss, Montague House.
1912 Courtenay Miss E. F., Montague House.
1913 Cox Lieut.-Colonel, Fonthill, Lansdown.
1913 Cox Miss, Fonthill, Lansdown.
1911 Crossman Rev. C. D., St. Edith, Bathampton.
1911 Crossman Mrs., St. Edith, Bathampton.
1904 Curd Charles, Esq., 6, Gay Street.
1904 Curd Mrs., 6, Gay Street.
1913 Cuthbert Rev. G. S., 9, Forester Road.

1903 Davis Rev. J. Roland, M.A., Broughton Gifford Rectory.
1903 Davis Colonel T. Arnoll, Weston Park House.
1912 Dease Patrick P., Esq., 6, Widcombe Crescent.
1912 Dease Mrs., 6, Widcombe Crescent.
1914 *Dunn Rev. John, D.C.L., 50, Combe Park.

1903 Ellacombe Rev. Canon, Bitton Vicarage Bristol.

1903 Ferrari Miss F. J., Batheaston House.
1914 Folker Miss, Tor View, Combe Down.
1912 Fosbery Dr., 1, Oxford Row.
1911 Foxcroft Charles T., Esq., Hinton Charterhouse.
1908 *Gervis Henry, Esq., M.D., F.S.A., 15, Royal Crescent.
1908 Gervis Miss Dora L., 15, Royal Crescent.
1906 Goldie Robert F., Esq., South Lawn, Lansdown.
1914 Graham Miss, 26, Combe Park.
1910 Gregory Mrs., Mount Beacon House.
1903 *Gregory George, Esq., 5, Argyle Street.
1903 *Grey Gerald J., Esq., Collina House, Bathwick Hill.
1904 Grey Mrs., Collina House, Bathwick Hill.

1905 Hallett T. G. Palmer, Esq., M.A., Claverton Lodge, Bathwick.
1903 *Hallett Mrs., Claverton Lodge, Bathwick.
1912 Hamilton Miss, Glanworth, Sion Road.
1904 Heathcote J. Cuthbert, Esq., Brent Knoll Manor, Somerset.
1913 Hodges C. M., Esq., 9, George Street, Bathwick Hill.
1913 Holmes Thomas J., Esq., Eastern House, Beechen Cliff.
1914 Holmyard Eric J. Esq., Midsomer Norton.
1914 Holt Miss F. V., 13B, Henrietta Street.
1903 *Horne Rev. Percy E., Downside Abbey.
1903 *Hylton Right Hon. Lord, Ammerdown Park, Radstock.

1913 Irwin Mrs. A., Fonthill, Lansdown.
1904 Isgar Robert, Esq., Mendip Lodge, Bathwick Hill.

1913 Jackson Miss, Glanworth, Sion Road.

1903 *Kemeys-Tynte, St. David M., Esq., The Beeches, Bathwick Hill.
1903 *Kirkwood Colonel Hendley P., Newbridge House.
1903 Knight Miss J. F., The Limes, Lansdown.

1905 *Lawrence F. W., Esq., M.R.A.S., F.R.G.S., Hillcote, Lansdown.
1908 Lawrence Rev. G. Henry, The Vicarage, Inglescombe.
1908 Leigh Colonel P. P., C.I.E., Grosvenor House.
1910 Leigh Mrs., Grosvenor House.
1913 Light Lieut.-Colonel, Eddystone, Monkton Combe.
1913 Linley-Howlden H., Esq., Old Manor House, Freshford.
1905 Longlands Mrs., 18, Belmont.
1910 Longworth-Dames Miss C., 2, Sion Hill.

1904 Machell Mrs. L., 13, Park Street.
1913 Massy Miss, 2, Duke Street.
1913 Maule Major-General, 2, Penn Lea, Newbridge Hill.
1906 *Miller Thomas H., Esq.
1907 Miller Mrs.
1913 Milsom A. C., Esq., De Montalt, Combe Down
1913 Milsom Mrs., De Montalt, Combe Down.

1913 Minchin Mrs. A. M., 15, Sion Hill.
1911 Monnington Alfred, Esq., Tennyson Cottage, Park Lane.
1904 Morley Charles, Esq., Shockerwick House.
1909 Mules Rev. F. H., Ashton, Park Gardens.

1910 Nash Lieut.-Colonel, 7, Laura Place.
1910 Nash Mrs., 7, Laura Place.
1912 Newham Miss, 11, Raby Place, Bathwick.
1903 *Norman George, Esq., F.S.A.I., 12, Brock Street.
1907 Norman Mrs., 12, Brock Street.
1913 Norman Miss, Oakfield, Weston Park.

1903 Pagden Mrs., Batheaston House.
1914 Palairet Miss, 16, Bennett Street.
1912 Parry Hubert, Esq., Hillsborough, Beechen Cliff.
1913 Perks Rev. R. M., Court Essington, Midford.
1913 Phillimore J. E. Esq., Sedgley, Sion Road.
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1904 Pinckney Mrs., The Orchard, Bathford.
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1904 Pitcairn Mrs., Bushey House, Monkton Combe.
1904 Pitman Ernest, Esq., Penn Hill.
1911 Pitt Mrs., 3, Lansdown Grove.
1913 Powell Rev. W. H., D.D., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1911 Powell Mrs. W. H., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1907 Pryce Ernest, Esq., 10, Cavendish Crescent.
1906 Pryce Mrs., 10, Cavendish Crescent
1913 Pryor Mrs., 2, Woodhill Place, Bathwick Hill.

1905 Reade Rev. Robert C. L., M.A., Charlcombe Rectory.
1905 Reade Mrs., Charlcombe Rectory.
1909 Rodman Miss, 17, The Tyning.
1904 *Rogers F. E., Esq., M.A., The Cedars, Beckington.
1903 Rolleston Colonel V., Saltford House, Bristol.
1903 Rolleston S. V., Esq., B.C.L., M.A., Saltford House, Bristol.
1911 Rose H. F., Esq., Glencairn, Pulteney Road.
1914 Rose Mrs. H. F., Glencairn, Pulteney Road.

1904 Salmon Miss E. E., 26, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1904 Salmon Miss L. M., 30, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1913 Sanderson Miss, 28, Combe Park.
1913 Sanderson Miss A. V., 28, Combe Park.
1903 *Scott M. H., Esq., 5, Lansdown Place, West.
1910 Scott Mrs., 28, The Circus.
1908 Shickle Miss Mabel, 9, Cavendish Crescent.
1903 *Shum Frederick, Esq., F.S.A., 17, Norfolk Crescent.
1907 Shum F. E., Esq., 6, Bathwick Hill.
1903 *Sibbald G. E., Esq., Mount Pleasant, Norton St. Philip.
1903 Spender Miss, 34, Marlborough Buildings.
1905 Staight S. Neville, Esq., Battlefields.
1903 Stone Robert S., Esq., Bath and County Club.
1903 *Strachie Lord, Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol.
1911 Straghan Mrs., 26, Crescent Gardens.
1913 Strangways Miss, Shapwick, Somerset.
1912 Strangways Miss R. C., 6, Brunswick Place.

1904 Taylor A. J., Esq., 18, New Bond Street.
1903 *Thatcher A. A., Esq., Midsomer Norton.

1903 *Thomas C. E., Esq., 13, Queen Square.
1903 *Tite Charles, Esq., Stoneleigh, Taunton.
1904 Tyte W., Esq., 7, Bloomfield Crescent.

1914 Wace Henry, Esq., St. Winifreds.
1914 Wace Miss, St. Winifreds,
1914 Wadmore Rev. Prebendary, 13, Springfield Place.
1903 *Waldegrave Right Hon. the Earl, Chewton Priory.
1913 Walker Robert, Esq., F.R.G.S.
1914 Ward Mrs. Langfield, Weston Lawn, Weston.
1910 Wardle F. D., Esq., Guildhall.
1905 Watson Mrs. Dominic, Bathampton House.
1904 Way Miss H. S., 12, Darlington Street,
1904 Wayne Miss F. C., Dale Cottage, Charlcombe.
1903 *Weaver Rev. F. W., M.A., F.S.A., Milton Clevedon Vicarage, Evercreech.
1903 *Whittuck E. A., Esq., Claverton Manor.
1909 *Wickham Rev. J. D. C., M.A., Holcombe Manor.
1904 Williams D. Prout, Esq., 7, Belvedere.
1913 Wills J. H., Esq., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Mrs., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Stanley, Esq., 14, Royal Crescent.
1913 Wills Mrs., 14, Royal Crescent.
1903 *Winwood Rev. H. H., M.A., F.G.S., 11, Cavendish Crescent.
1908 Wood Miss Ellen, 38, Combe Park.
1914 Wood Miss Margaret, 59, Combe Park.
1913 Woods John C., Esq., Bank House, Trowbridge.

1911 Young B. W., Esq., 1 Stanley Villas, Camden Road.

The Treasurer in Account with the Bath and District Branch Somersetshire Archaeological Society for 1914.

1914. Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last year	90	4	3
,, 171 Members' Subscriptions	42	15	0
,, Sale of "Proceedings"	0	12	0
,, Excursions	1	9	6
,, Donation	0	5	6
,, Interest on Deposit	1	7	4
	£136	13	7

1914. Cr.		£	s.	d.
By "Proceedings" for 1913—J. B. Keene & Co.		20	15	0
,, Hire of Rooms, Literary Institution		0	17	6
,, J. B. Keene & Co.—Circulars and Stationery		4	0	6
,, Two Lectures—Hire of Room, Lantern, &c.		3	19	0
,, Postage of "Proceedings," &c.		1	5	3
,, Ditto per Excursion Secretary		1	15	0
,, Subscription to National Trust		1	1	0
,, Ditto Somersetshire Archæological Society		1	1	0
,, Donation—Old Sarum Excavations		0	10	0
,, ,, Literary Institution		2	2	0
,, Fees at Excursions		0	12	6
		37	18	9
,, Balance, Deposit at Parr's Bank	£50 0 0			
,, ,, at Parr's Bank	48 14 10			
		98	14	10
		£136	13	7

Examined and found correct, 17th December, 1914—
ROBT. ISGAR, *Auditor.*

THOS. S. BUSH, *Hon. Treasurer.*

NOTES.

Scratch Dials in the Bath District.

REV. E. HORNE.

IT was found necessary, in order to catalogue all the scratch dials existing in the county, to have some method of grouping parishes, so that none of them might be missed. The Unions, formed originally for Poor Law purposes, have served conveniently for this arrangement, and under the name of Districts the various parish churches of the county have been gathered together.

The Bath District with which we are immediately concerned contains 22 churches. In alphabetical order they are as follows:—Bath: the Abbey, Widcombe and Holloway; Bathampton, Batheaston, Bathford, Charlcombe, Hinton Charterhouse, Claverton, Combe Hay, Dunkerton, Englishcombe, Freshford, Langridge, Monkton Combe, St. Catherine, South Stoke, Swainswick, Twerton, Wellow, Weston, and Woolley. Of these twenty-two churches Monkton Combe, Twerton, Weston and Woolley have been re-built in modern times, and contain scarcely any old stones. Widcombe also appears to be nearly a new church, and several others have been so much restored, such as Batheaston, Bathford, Combe Hay, and South Stoke, that much that was interesting must have disappeared. Two other churches, Charlcombe and St. Catherine's, could not be thoroughly examined, as the walls were much covered with ivy and creepers, and likely places were hidden by notice boards, etc. One church, Dunkerton, has a doubtful dial. It is situated on the south-west buttress of the tower, about 10 or 12 feet from the ground and appears to have been used as a repairing stone, for it is upside down. It has a stylehole, and seems to possess certain hour lines, but one would hesitate to say definitely that it is a scratch dial. After eliminating the above mentioned churches, fifteen are left. A careful examination of their walls produces the result that six possess dials and nine are without them. This is a fairly large proportion out of the whole twenty-two, being not quite a quarter. The neighbouring District of Keynsham is however somewhat richer, for it has six among fourteen

churches. Compared with some of the more southern Districts, Taunton for instance, where only four dials could be found out of thirty-eight churches; or Wellington, which has only one between eighteen, it will be seen that the Bath District is above the average.

The six dials are on the churches at Hinton Charterhouse, Claverton, Englishcombe, Langridge, Swainswick, and Wellow. Two of these are uninteresting and unsatisfactory. The Hinton Charterhouse dial is scratched on a stone on the east side of the priest's door into the chancel, it is indistinct, and the stylehole, which must have been in the joint of the stone above, has been carefully filled up and hardly shows. A little higher above it, are the remains of another dial, more shadowy still. At Englishcombe, the west buttress of the south transept has a dial about six feet six inches from the ground. It is feeble and worn, and from the fact that the stylehole in the centre is shallow and very small, it looks like one of those dials, met with not infrequently, which has been begun and never finished.

The dial on Claverton Church is a much more interesting affair. When first found it was on the east side of the south porch only sixteen inches from the ground, as shown in *Fig. 1*. The soil against the walls of the church has been excavated to some depth for the sake of keeping the building dry, and this exposes the stonework to its foundations. In July 1913, the dial was found down at the base of the porch wall, which could never have been its original position. At some previous time in its history the porch has been "restored," and it was probably pulled down to within a foot or so of the ground, and then rebuilt with the same stone. At this restoration, the dial must have been built into the foundations upside down, and there it remained until the rector's attention was called to it by Mr. Gerald Grey. A lady kindly offered to defray the expenses of moving the stone from this ignominious position and of restoring it to its rightful place on the face of the south porch. The dial is now on the right hand side of the outer doorway, sufficiently high up to be out of the way of the would-be artist's knife. Unfortunately it has already been considerably cut about and added to, and it is difficult to distinguish the original lines from the additions. There are dots or small holes at the ends of some of the lines, as if to mark them especially, but these have evidently been duplicated so that it it almost impossible to say what the dial was like in its primitive state. Inside the church, a short description of it has been hung up, and the Rev. A. H. Scott-White is to be congratulated on the care he has taken to preseve one of these records of the past. The dial is shown in *Fig. 1* as

Fig. 1

Claverton.

Fig. 2.

Swainswick.

Photos Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

it was before its restoration, as its old position is now a part of its history. It is to be hoped that the good example set by the rector of Claverton will be followed in other places, for there are quite a number of ill-used dials in the county. At Upton Noble is the most perfect example of a "hole-dial" yet found, that is, a dial where holes are drilled into the wall to mark the hours instead of lines. It has unfortunately been re-set in the wall upside down, probably at the "restoration" in 1881, and the downpipe carrying the rain water from the roof, runs across its face as well. The churches at Montacute and Charlinch have reversed dials, and there are many others. At the former church there is an ordinary sundial of some interest, as it appears to be of quite uncommon design. The hour lines, with Roman numerals at the ends of them, are cut directly on to a stone in the south face of the S.E. buttress of the tower, and an iron style is leaded into the wall. This style is merely a peg, projecting 6 or 7 inches, and hence it is not the triangular shape, fastened in at two points, that is usual in an ordinary sundial. This iron peg takes a curious curve upwards for half its length, and this curve probably compensates for its incorrect form. Hence the Montacute example is a kind of link between the scratch dial and the sundial proper.

While speaking of the shape of styles, it may be mentioned that when examining some scratch dials this summer, one was found from which about an inch-and-a-quarter of the original oak style was extracted from the central hole. This bears out the statement made by the well-known antiquary, Dr. Charles Cox, in the Appendix to his *Churches of Norfolk*, that the style or gnomon in these simple dials, was frequently only a wooden peg, for he says "in three or four places the insertion of a knife has brought to light fragments of hard oak." But probably in the majority of cases the style was of metal, for the shanks of a considerable number of them still exist, either leaded or cemented into the hole in the centre.

We come in the next example to an instance of this. The dial at Swainswick Church (*Fig. 2*) may be seen at the E. end of the nave, on the southern face of a quoin stone, about 5ft. 6ins. from the ground. It is almost unique, for it is of quite an unusual pattern. Although these scratch dials run through well-nigh infinite variety, yet there is a general likeness in them all, and it is rare to find what may be fairly called a new design. Until this last summer no dial like the Swainswick one had been found, but on the church at Tintinhull, in the Yeovil District, exists its almost exact counterpart. It is so exactly like it that it is difficult to resist the conclusion

that one must be a copy of the other. The Tintinhull example is somewhat smaller, and marks no hours for service after mid-day, but appears to mark one earlier in the morning than the Swainswick one does. The orientation of the two buildings differs considerably, to say nothing of the fact that they are separated by the whole length of the county from each other, and both these items will so affect the position of the lines, that it is not possible to say with accuracy what hours are intended to be indicated. These churches had no ecclesiastical connection—they are in a different archdeaconry, their patrons were different, and no record shows that any incumbent passed from one parish to the other. Hence nothing can be suggested, even remotely, that would explain why there should exist this extraordinary likeness between the two dials which are both, at the same time, of curious design. The end of a metal shank seems to be firmly embedded in the stylehole of the Swainswick example, as was said above.

Not far from the last mentioned place, is Langridge. On referring to the illustration of the dial *(Fig. 3)* on this church it will be noticed that it is an example of what appears to be amateur work. The stylehole, now filled up with mortar, is in the junction where the corners of three stones meet. This saved the maker the trouble of drilling a hole in the solid stone. Also the straight line immediately below the stylehole, which marks 12 noon, is formed by the joint between two stones, and hence the cutting of an important line has been saved as well. The dial is a good example of the way additional lines are often made on these stones, for the scratches on the right hand side are much fainter than those on the left, and are evidently added to the original design. The lines on the left have certainly been considerably recut, and no one of them is now more prominent than another, and hence it is impossible to say what particular hour on this dial was marked for mass. It is situated on a quoin stone on the south face of the eastern corner of the nave, about five feet six inches from the ground, which is the average height of a scratch dial. While this was doubtles a comfortable height for the original maker to work at, it has also proved convenient to the amateur decorator as well, and hence the reason so few scratch dials have escaped mutilation.

On a buttress of Wellow Church, situated at the east end of the south aisle, is the dial shown at *Fig. 4.* It is an angle buttress, and the part on which the lines are cut faces south-west, which is a very unusual position for a dial. This aspect throws all the lines out of their ordinary position, and 12 noon, instead of being the perpendicular line immediately below the

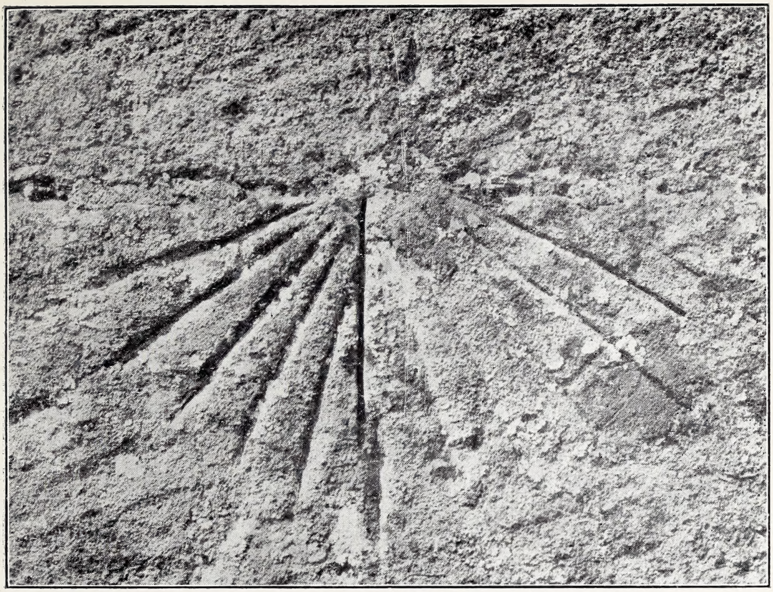


Fig. 3.

Langridge.

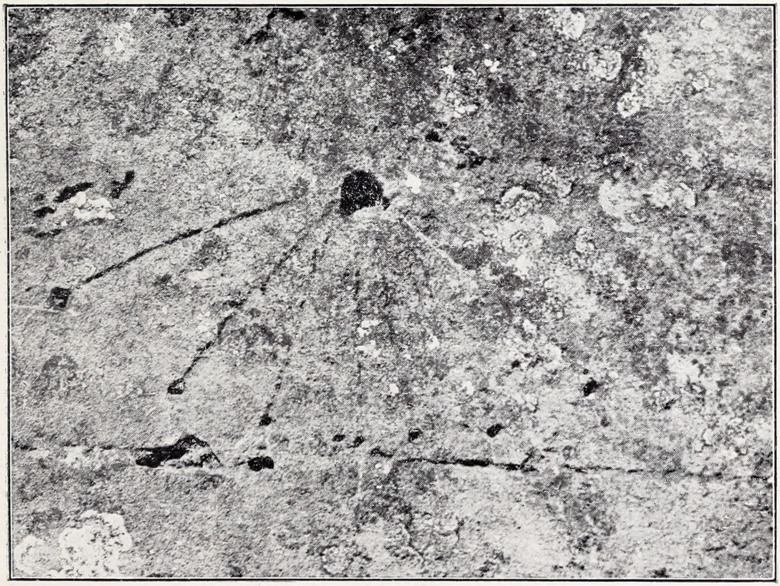


Fig. 4.

Wellow.

Photos Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

style, is considerably to the left of its proper place. Someone has added Roman numerals at the ends of the lines, and they look as if scratched with a knife in fairly recent times. The person who made these marks must have first placed a peg in the stylehole and watched where the shadow fell, as the numbers are placed too accurately to have been guessed. The church, dedicated to St. Julian—the only church in the county dedicated to this saint—was rebuilt on the foundations of a Norman church in 1370. The buttress on which the dial is cut may be of that date, or even later, but it fixes the date of this mass-marker as certainly not earlier than the end of the 14th century. On the church at North Stoke is a dial almost exactly like this one at Wellow—and for the matter of that, several more could be found like it in the county, for the pattern is a common one. In the *Proceedings* of the Somerset Archæological Society for 1888 is a paper and a notice on the discovery of a dial at North Stoke, which the Rev. W. S. Calverley, F.S.A., "pronounces to be Saxon." Now we know that the Wellow example was made since 1370, and as the North Stoke one does not differ from it we may conclude that it is certainly not any older, and hence there is no need even for the guarded description given of it in *Kelly's Directory* for Somerset when it says that the church there possesses a dial that is "possibly Saxon."

It will be seen from the above notes that four out of the six scratch-dials in the Bath District have a certain interest of their own, and that each is an example of a different type. They are in fairly good preservation now, and it is to be hoped that those who are concerned will do what they can to prevent them from being ill-treated. In more than one place in the county it has been found that on revisiting a dial after the lapse of a couple of years, it has been cut about and mutilated since the first visit, and this shows that the habits of the idle boy with the knife do not change much. So many dials have already perished that every care should be taken of the few that remain.

Gargoyles on Somersetshire and Wiltshire Churches.

GERALD J. GREY.

An address, illustrated with lantern slides, was given by Mr. Gerald Grey to the members of the Bath Branch on Thursday afternoon, February 19th at the Literary and Scientific Institution. Mr. T. S. Bush presided. The lecturer explained that the word Gargoyle has two derivations—one from the French "gargouille," originally the throat or gullet, so called, from the gurgling sound of running water ; the other from "gargonelle," a dragon, which was said to have infested the neighbourhood of Rouen until slain by St. Romanus. The Latin gurglio gula and similar words being derived from the root gar to swallow, the word "gargoyle" represented the gurgling sound of water. In the Encyclopædia Britannica (new edition), appears a paragraph in reference to gargoyles. It told them that "in Egypt there are gargoyles to get the water used in washing the sacred vessels, which would seem to have been done on the flat roofs of the temples. In Greek temples the water from the roof passed through the mouths of lions whose heads were carved or modelled in the marble or terra-cotta cymatium of the cornice. At Pompeii large numbers of terra-cotta gargoyles have been found, which were modelled in the shape of various animals." The lecturer having explained the derivations of "gargoyle," continued : Dr. Ashby, the Principal of the British School in Rome, has kindly sent me a negative of the 16th century drawing of the marble Basilica Aemelia Cornice, a slide of which I am now about to show you. It gives a very good idea of how the Greek and Roman architects utilised lions heads to carry off the rain water from the roof of their buildings. The earliest example of a gargoyle found in England came to light during the excavations of the Roman city of Corstopitum, Northumberland, in the year 1907. Amongst the debris was found the fine group of the lion and stag, a representation of which you see on the screen. The group, which is three feet in height and the same in length, had been broken through the lion's legs, but the parts fitted together, and only a small fragment was found to be missing. The stag, which is represented in a state of collapse, rests on a base which has evidently formed a part of the coping of a wall or balustrade. The lion stands on the stag's back with one forepaw on the right antler, and the other in the act of tearing the forehead, and his pose

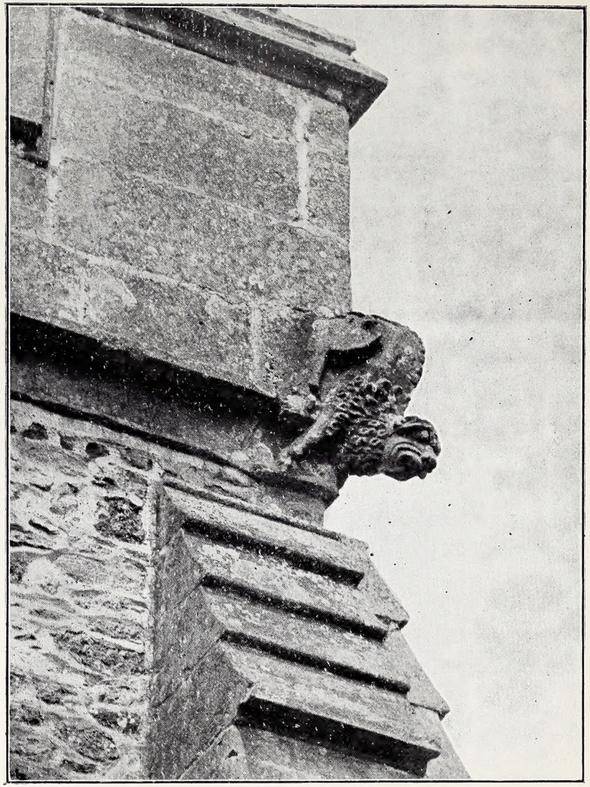
suggests that he has just been disturbed by some intruder. No definite clue to its date has been discovered, but the fact that the group was found buried in a disused tank points to a comparitively early period, probably the second century. It is impossible to determine the exact position which the group occupied in relation to the tank, but there is no doubt that it had formed a fountain. A groove in the stag's shoulder at the back indicated that the line of the water pipe had been introduced into the lion's mouth through the opening at the back.

The French authority, Violett-le-Duc, in his article on gargoyles in the Dictionnaire Raisonné de l'Architecture Francaise, 11th to 16th century, published in 1868, says "gargoyles appeared on churches towards the beginning of the 13th century." Mostly fantastic animals roughly sculptured, their possibilities for architecture were soon perceived and they quickly became " chef d'œuvres." They harmonised with the architecture in a way seldom found in modern Gothic. The architects of the 13th century soon recognised that it was of considerable advantage to divide the fall of the water, this avoided long slopes into the gutters and reduced each outfall to a fine jet of water which would not injure the building below them. The variety of forms employed for gargoyles is marvellous. We very rarely meet with two alike, and even some of our country Manor houses—for example, South Wraxall and Great Chalfield—abound with them. Many of these gargoyles are masterpieces of sculpture. In order to understand the grotesque animals and monsters which stand out against the sky from the external parapets and towers of some of our parish churches in Somersetshire and Wiltshire, it is necessary to go back to study the minds of the master builders, those giant artists of the 13th and 14th centuries, to whom we owe the stately and beautiful edifices which then formed the book of the human race, the most eloquent expression of human thought. At this period sculpture in England and France was on the whole the finest in the world, and was in both countries used in the greatest profusion. Early Gothic architecture shows traces of the barbarism from which its originators had but lately emerged, for their principal models were affected by the rude Celtic monuments of the north, not the classic treatment of Greece and Rome, but the church builders of mediæval days sought truly to make their work " Sermons in Stones." They sought all that was good and holy, and used their art as a vehicle of moral and religious teaching, so they outlined their structures with figures emblematical of the Church's victory over the Legion of the

Devils, the emissaries of the Prince of Darkness being represented as taking flight from the Consecrated House of God, whilst angels mounted guard over the infernal cohort. The primary origin of these grotesque creations may be traced to the study of the Apocalypse where the four Living Creatures are taken as symbols of the Evangelists, and the Dragon as the Enemy of Man. Some of the sculptured gargoyles on the parapets, and later the corbels, the dripstones or hood-mouldings of the windows of some of our parish churches symbolise the devil as some grotesque animal, such as a fox, or a dog with a man's head. Other animals are employed, real or imaginary to symbolise the virtues and vices. The lion meant vigilance, force and courage; the mermaid, pleasures of the flesh; the pelican, charity; the screech-owl, the snake and the basilisk, or crowned serpent, were all favourite symbols of the devil. The stolid elephant may be taken as an emblem of soul-destroying sloth, which numbs all high aspirations till the body becomes unwieldy, and mind is buried in matter. When the artists wished to represent a man enslaved by base passions, they placed the human figure by the side of the embodied vice. Later on the devils assume a less terrible form, they become depraved rather than awe inspiring, and are often only ridiculous. Irony takes the place of savagery; cunning, that of cruelty—sometimes the evil one cheats man, sometimes he is cheated himself. Each county had its own type of creature, but those early sculptors showed a close and correct study of nature—every curve, every limb is true to life. The practical genius of these church builders combined with their devout, and to us, perhaps superstitious symbolism, soon turned these monsters to account for true Gothic art. In the modern imitations on Gothic buildings, it is very rare to find gargoyles which agree with the architecture. They are badly placed, or heavy, or too slender, or tame in form, wanting in originality, characterless—they have not that semblance of reality which is so remarkable in the old examples; they are impossible creations, often ridiculous gross caricatures with no style at all. Exceptions are the modern grotesques found on the parapets of the Church of St. Peter, Evercreech. The carvings date from 1642 and were executed by a carver from Wells. At the beautiful modern Abbey of St. Gregory at Downside, near Bath, there is a wealth of fantastic carvings to be seen on the monastic buildings, the college, and also on the Abbey itself. Mr. Grey mentioned that through the kindness of the Rev. Father Horne he had been enabled to photograph several examples.

Ditcheat.

THE DEVIL AND ATTENDANT IMPS.



Photos Mr. Gerald Grey.

Ditcheat.

CROUCHING LION.

Steeple Ashton.

A SOUL ENTERING HELL.

Photos by Mr. Gerald Grey.

Steeple Ashton.

A SOUL IN HELL.

A really striking series of views of gargoyles from photographs taken by the lecturer was shown. They included a representation of a remarkable gargoyle symbolical of the devil with two souls in his grasp to be found on Mudford church near Yeovil. Other views of gargoyles at Mudford church included a dragon in profile and one with an ornamented leaden spout. Five interesting gargoyles, to be found at Pilton near Shepton Mallet, were exhibited, and coming to Chewton Mendip church, which Mr. Grey described as one of the glories of Somerset, the lecturer showed what he termed two "grimace-makers." Five illustrations of gargoyles adorning the church at Ditcheat near Evercreech, were shown. One was a representation of a lion and three little lions, symbolical of the devil and his attendant imps. *(See illustration.)* One of the gargoyles was suggestive of a crab-like monster and another was pig-like, whilst the fifth was that of a crouching lion. *(See illustration.)* At Camerton the corbel hood mouldings were very striking, one being that of a lady with a rosary and another a knight playing a *z*ither, and the lecturer drew attention to what he termed the geometrical formation of the strings. The only example of an elephant (symbolical of sloth) he had been able to find in this district was at Camerton—the only other example he had seen so far was at Notre Dame, Paris.

Crossing the border into Wiltshire, Steeple Ashton had a regular picture gallery of gargoyles on the parapets. Slides were shown of "A Soul descending into Hell's mouth" and "Hell's mouth closed," indicating that the Soul was in Hell. *(See illustrations.)* At St. Mary's, Devizes, the Devil was indicated holding up to ridicule a lady's unconvential head-gear, while another effigy of a lady with correct head-dress was left severely alone. At Trowbridge Parish Church there was a wealth of quaint hood mouldings and gargoyles. One of the former represented a fox running away with a goose, symbolical of Satan carrying off a Soul. At South Wraxhall Manor a number of quaint gargoyles were to be seen, one being an especially fine piece of work symbolical of Satan swallowing a Soul, and another that of a Soul leaving Hell. *(See illustrations).*

At the close Mr. Grey was very cordially thanked for his interesting lecture on the motion of Colonel Hendley Kirkwood.

Bath Abbey.

DISCOVERY OF PART OF THE NORMAN TRIFORIUM ARCADE IN THE WEST WALL OF THE FORMER TRANSEPT (SOUTH), NOW THE EAST WALL OF THE SOUTH AISLE OF THE CHOIR.

F. Bligh Bond, F.R.I.B.A.

The wall terminating the south choir aisle in the existing church contains a Norman arch which is a familiar object to visitors. This is visible from the interior and surrounds the head of the late Perpendicular window, which is loosely inserted in the hollow.

On the outside of the wall the only traces of Norman work hitherto spoken of have been the circular bases of two engaged shafts, which appear to correspond in position with the arch on the inner face. There is a fair face of 16th century ashlar work above ground, containing a four-centred 4-light window, and below it a depressed doorway with spandrels in a square head of the same period.

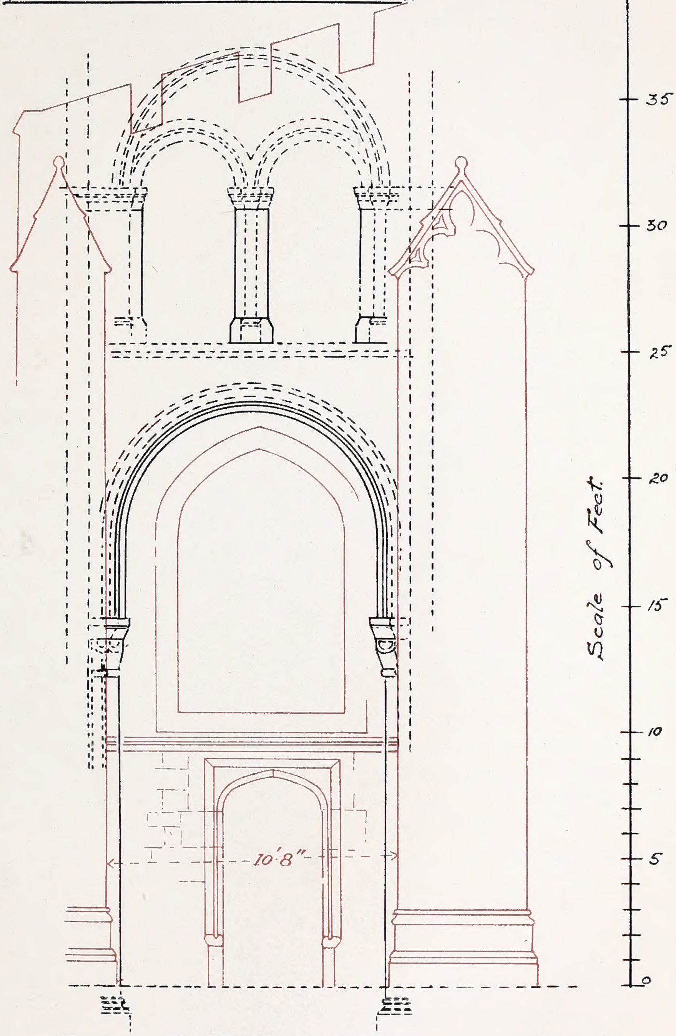
Above the window is a flat expanse of ashlar work, up to the traceried parapet and its cornice.

During the spring of the current year the writer had occasion to examine the fabric, with a view of making a communication at the Annual Meeting of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History at Bath, and a close study of this part of the face was made by him. The presence of certain straight joints in the masonry was observed. These, on further inspection, proved to mark the position of two blocked-up aperatures about equal in width, and separated by a flat pilaster-like member mounted on a stone base showing chamfered profiles. A similar chamfered base was noticed beneath the left-hand jamb (south side of opening), and the conclusion seemed warranted that these remains represented part of the original Norman triforium, since not only did the position above the Norman arch appear exactly right for this, but in a church of the large size that this one is known to have been, the existence of a triforium must almost necessarily be assumed.

Since the Annual Meeting the writer has, with the Rector's consent, made a more detailed examination, the result of which tends to confirm his view. The position of

BATH · ABBEY — SOMERSET

DIAGRAM · ELEVATION · SHEWING TRACES · OF · NORMAN · WORK · DISCOVERED · IN · EASTERN END · OF · SOUTH · AISLE · CHOIR



NOTE: Firm Black Lines indicate Existing Data
Dotted " " " Conjectural
Firm Red " " XVI century Work

F Bligh Bond F.R.I.B.A.
Architect.
Nov. 1914. Glastonbury

the plinth under the northern or right-hand jamb is now revealed, but the jamb itself overhangs it and has evidently been rebuilt.

A diagram is supplied, by which it will be seen that the two openings were originally equal, being each 3ft. 8ins. in width. The northern opening is now only 3ft. $6\frac{1}{2}$ins., and the line of jamb above is obscured by bonding-stones.

The whole of the work has been reduced to a flat face uniform with the 16th century filling, and the plane of the older wall-face has been recessed perhaps 15 inches, which has resulted in the loss of all surface features.

The plan shows the bases of the engaged shaft visible on the external face, now protruding for some distance eastward of the 16th century wall-face.

It may be supposed that the Norman triforium, following a customary model, would have shown semi-circular heads to the openings, coupled under a larger semi-circle, and this is accordingly suggested in dotted lines. As no means now exist of deciding the true original height of the arcades, it seems best to assume that the flat pier represents the old height to the underside of a capital now missing. In the sketch this is supplied, and the proportion given by this means appears sufficiently satisfactory.

The height from the present doorstep to the top of the chamfered plinths is 26ft. 8ins. The total width in the clear of the two openings is 8ft. $7\frac{1}{4}$ins.

The arcade is obviously central with the existing Norman arch below, which is another argument in favour of the theory that the two were parts of one design.

The writer's attention has been drawn to a suggestion lately made, to the effect that these twin openings represent the position of a window in a wall of ancient character ante-dating the Norman work and incorporated with it.

From the fact that the Norman arch-head rises so nearly to the level of the sill of the arcade lately discovered, that the latter may almost be said to rest upon it, it may be clearly inferred that it would be a structural improbability to say the least, that an arch of the dimensions of the Norman one could have been inserted without causing the collapse of the work over. Apart, however, from this consideration, the writer is unable to detect anything distinctively pre-Norman in the visible remains.

Roman Sculpture at Nettleton Scrub, near Castle Combe.

PROFESSOR F. HAVERFIELD.

Some three years ago the foundations of a Roman building, with a pavement of pennant flags, some fragments of Roman pottery, tiles, etc., were accidentaly discovered at Nettleton Scrub, about a mile and a half from Castle Combe Manor House and barely 100 yards from the Roman road called the Fosse Way. An account was printed in the *Proceedings* of the Bath and District Branch of the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society for 1912 (pp. 177-179, *Report on the Lansdown Explorations*, 1912, p. 132), and was reprinted in the "Wiltshire Archæological Magazine" for 1913 (xxxviii. 113), with illustrations. I have also noticed the find in my "Roman Britain in 1913" (Oxford, 1914) and now, at Mr. Bush's request, venture to say a word about it here.

The find has been rather unsatisractorily described, and no quite certain explanation can be given of it. But it appears that the foundations, or at least the pennant flooring, were of the exact size and shape of a kiln which was erected on the spot on which they were discovered. The dimensions of this kiln have not been recorded, but probabilities and a photograph alike suggest that it occupied a small square space. The chief find, however, was the sculpture, which is stated to have "probably formed part of the foundation wall" of one side of the Roman building. This sculpture shewed a bas-relief of an erect draped figure, set in some sort of niche with a greyhound or other hunting dog on its right side looking up at it and wearing a collar. Dr. T. Ashby, Director of the British School at Rome, has been quoted as conjecturing that the relief is sepulchral and that the hound is the dog often included in Greek sepulchral monuments, looking up at its dead master. But sepulchral monuments of this type do not seem to occur in western Europe, and I would much rather believe that the hound is the dog of the huntress deity Diana and that the moderate-sized building in which the relief was found was one of the little square temples which were common in British and Gaulish lands and which form a

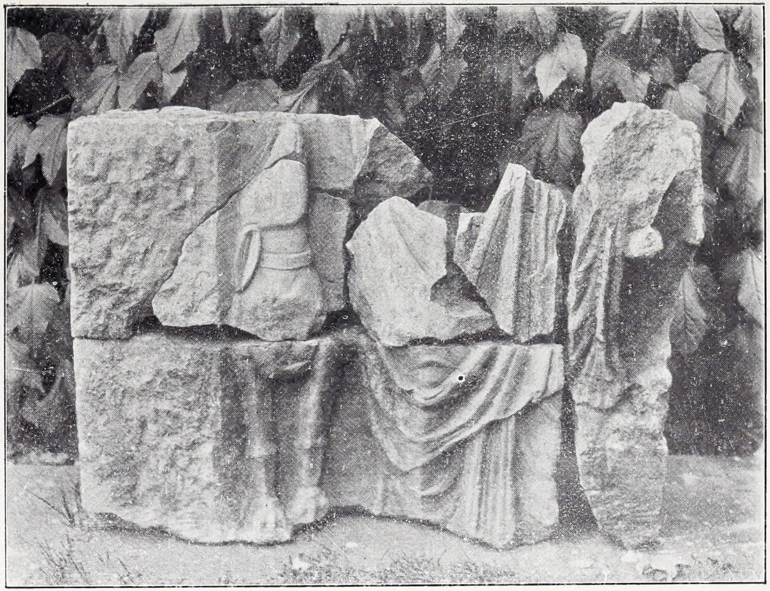


Photo Mr. Gerald Grey.

NETTLETON SCRUB.—(REPRODUCED FROM 1912.)

distinct architectural variety in these particular regions (1). I am the more inclined to conjecture this, because a relief of a 'hunter spearing a stag'—in reality, probably, Diana hunting —was unearthed at or near the same spot some fifty years ago (2). This suggests that there was at or near Nettleton Scrub and Castle Combe a local shrine, perhaps connected with the traffic along the Fosse Way, in which either Diana was worshipped or some British deity connected with Diana and honoured under her attributes.

[The sculpture illustrated in our *Proceedings* 1912 is here reproduced.]

Hodshill, Southstoke.

ROMAN COFFIN AND SKELETON.

THOS. S. BUSH.

On September 3rd I received a letter from Mr. Geoffery Hignett, that another coffin with skeleton had been unearthed when carrying out gardening operations on his premises. [Notes on the previous coffin discovered in 1911 will be found on page 112 of our *Proceedings* for that year.] On the following morning I went over and saw the coffin *in situ*. It lay N. and S., the head to the N., one side and the ends only were exposed. The soil on the W. side had not been removed. The ground slopes considerably; at the foot the depth from the surface to the cover was 1½ft. and at the head 2½ft. The coffin, of local stone (Oolite) measured inside 5ft. 10ins. long, 1ft. 4ins. wide at head, tapered to 9½ins. at foot; 9ins. deep at head and 11ins. at foot. The depth outside, at head 1ft. 1in. and at foot 1ft. 7ins. The sides 4ins. thick and ends 3ins; the head is rounded. The inside is fairly smooth, the outside has been worked with a pointed tool making diagonal lines. The

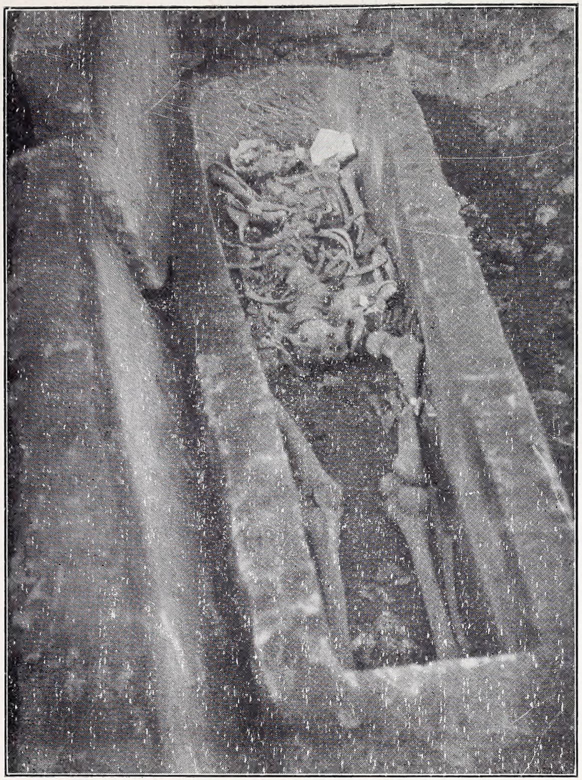
(1). See for examples my "Romanization of Roman Britain" pp. 30, 31 (ed. 2) and references and plans there given.

(2). "Gentleman's Magazine," 1860, II. p. 159, at end of an account of the neighbouring Roman country-house of North Wraxall; "Wiltshire Archæological Magazine," vii. 73; the "Archæological Journal," xvii. 162, repeats the same information.

cover has been broken nearly across the centre, it measures 6ft. 8½ins. long by 1ft. 7ins. to 1ft. 2ins. wide, 7ins. thick at the centre somewhat reduced at the outer edges; the inner face has been worked with an adze, the upper side is in the rough. The site of this is slightly W. of S. of Hodshill House, the former one was E. of S. On the afternoon of the following day I went over with Doctor King Martyn in his motor. He was not able to see the whole of the skeleton as there was some 3 or 4 inches of soil in the coffin and this was too wet to handle. He has kindly favoured me with the following notes:—

"I think there can be no doubt from the configuration of the Pelvis and other bones that it is that of a man and from the measurement of the Femur he must have been about 5ft. 4ins. high. From the configuration of the lower jaw and the condition of such teeth as we found I should say he was of middle age. The skeleton was lying apparently on the right side, slightly, with the right arm under the body but as so many of the bones had been displaced by the action of water, earth and animals this position may be only apparent. Most of the bones are intact but the skull has lost the whole of one Temporal bone and the whole of the upper jaw. The head was evidently a very small one and of the long or Dolicho-cephalic type. The long bones, Humorus, Ulna, Femur, Tibia and Fibula were in their places but the Vertebræ have been much displaced. The right Femur is fractured in the middle of the shaft—probably *post mortem* change. The ribs, collar bones and small bones of the hands and feet are very much displaced. I daresay careful sifting of the remaining earth in the coffin may disclose some of the missing portions of the skull and some more teeth; these last are evidently widely scattered; you will remember I found one among the numerous sandal-nails and foot bones."

On the 23rd I paid another visit and had another interview with Mr. Hignett. On the previous day he had the earth in the coffin sifted with the result that several small pieces of skull were discovered and many hob-nails, a total of about 120, including those found by Dr. Martyn. The upper jaw was not met with. It may be mentioned that in carrying out extensive additions to the garden during the past three years a few shards of Samian and a considerable quantity of Roman pottery has been unearthed as well as a few bits of British. Two of the latter have been photographed and are here reproduced, as well as two views of the coffin taken by Mrs. Hignett, the one showing the skeleton was photographed after the earth was removed so that the bones are not in the same position as when the coffin was opened. At the end of the previous report of the finding of a coffin I said that both Mr. and Mrs. Hignett are keen antiquaries, consequently further discoveries (which seem probable) are certain to receive careful attention.



Photos Mrs. Hignett.

COFFIN, HODSHILL, SOUTHSTOKE.

Photo Middleton Ashman & Co.

BRITISH POTTERY, HODSHILL, SOUTHSTOKE.

Photo Middleton Ashman & Co.

BRITISH POTTERY, HODSHILL, SOUTHSTOKE.

Royal Mineral Water Hospital.

THOS. S. BUSH.

On the 1st January, 1914, when clearing out the ground for the purpose of making a subway passage from the Hospital to a building on the opposite side of the road, lately fitted up for the accommodation of nurses, a bronze needle 4⅜ins. long was discovered, as well as shards of Samian and other pottery, at about 7ft. under the road. On the following day the workmen on removing a large stone found that it covered a well. This stone was 10ft. under the road. The well measured 2ft. 4ins. diameter in the clear, and was built up of dry walling throughout except a few feet at the top where mortar had been used. The men cleared about 2ft. in depth of soil when they came across water at 18ft. from the top of the well. They drove down a bar into soft material so evidently the bottom had not been reached. Whether this well was of Roman construction cannot be stated, but it is possible that had the well been cleared out down to the bottom some articles of the Roman period might have been brought to light and so have given a clue to its date. Unfortunately the time required to carry this out would have delayed the contractor. The position of the well is on the north side of the road and within 9ins. of the south or inner face of the Mediæval or Roman wall, and about 1ft. east of the centre of the new subway.

Stone Coffin found in the Sydney Gardens.

MAY 21ST, 1914.

ALFRED J. TAYLOR, M.S.A.

This coffin was found by workmen whilst digging for gravel in a portion of the old tennis courts in the Sydney Gardens, at the Bathwick Street end of Sydney Place (west), about 75 feet back from the railings in Sydney Place, 28 feet from the corner of the Gardener's Cottage, and 39 feet from the hoarding forming the boundary of the Holborn Trustees property, and only 1ft. 8ins. below the surface.

The coffin was cut from one block of Oolite, the cover also being in one piece which, however, was unfortunately broken whilst digging.

The shape of the coffin is the usual type, with a semi-circular end at the head, the sides tapering to a square end at the foot. The inside dimensions are 1ft. 4½ins. at the head, diminishing to 8½ inches at the foot, and the extreme inside length is 5ft. 5ins. The bottom of the inside is slightly sloped from head to foot, with a depth of 9ins. at the former and 10ins. at the latter, the thickness of the sides being 2½ins. and the bottom 2½ inches to 3½ inches. The cover, 5 inches thick throughout, is 6ft. 4ins. long, 2ft. 1½ins. wide at head and 1ft. 7½ins. at foot, so that it considerably overlaps the coffin at the sides and ends. The lower side had been carefully worked and the upper roughly tooled. The coffin when found was lying due North and South with the head towards the former. Upon the cover being removed a skeleton was disclosed. It was judged to be that of a woman of small stature.

Both the coffin and the skeleton have now been placed in the Museum adjoining the Roman Baths.

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

REPORT, 1915.

THE Committee have pleasure in stating that, notwithstanding the strenuous times, the membership has kept up with twelve candidates on the waiting list. Commencing the year with 171, 12 have resigned and 13 elected, making a total of 172; but as two of these, being for a time in India, were not asked for their subscriptions, this left 170 paying Members as shown in the statement of accounts.

An account of the Annual Meeting, held on April 8th, Lord Hylton (President) in the chair, will follow this Report.

The Committee having carefully considered the present state of affairs, decided to continue the excursions, but to limit them to half days, as by so doing it would not interfere so much with the good work in which so many were engaged. These excursions since the formation of the Branch have been most instructive, so cannot altogether be classed as pleasure trips as some people consider them. Mr. Grey arranged an attractive programme of five excursions; these were carried out most successfully, the attendance being fully up to the average

of former years. The Committee have not only to thank him for all the trouble he has taken in arranging them, but also for supplying photographs; they have also to thank Miss Blathwayt and Miss Rodman for forwarding a number of photographs of places visited. A selection has been made and reproduced with a full report of the excursions.

The Rev. Ethelbert Horne, who has taken such a keen interest in our Branch, has kindly favoured the Committee with photographs and notes of a window at Babington House, by request of Lady Neville, the occupier; these they are very pleased to print in these Proceedings.

Interesting lectures have been given this year by three of our Members at the Literary and Scientific Institution, and are fully reported with a few illustrations—the first by the Rev. Ethelbert Horne on January 21st on "Holy Wells of Somerset," the second by Mr. M. H. Scott on February 11th on "Turf Monuments in England," the third by the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn on December 9th on "The History of the Parish of Monkton Combe." The Committee are very grateful to these Members for so kindly coming forward and thus continuing the Lectures inaugurated the previous season. They sincerely hope others will volunteer their services in the same direction, and so fill up the gap between the excursion seasons.

For a second year no explorations have been undertaken, and are not likely to be during the War. The Treasurer of the Fund has invested the small balance—about £7—in War Stock; this will, of course, be available for any future work.

The Committee have pleasure in illustrating parts of two Roman columns that were casually met with on Lansdown, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet below the surface, during the making of a dug-out by the North Somerset Yeomanry, under the command of Major

A. H. Gibbs, who has, with the consent of Mr. Robert Blathwayt (owner of the land), handed them over to the Literary and Scientific Institution, Bath. Notes on this discovery have been supplied by Mr. Thos. S. Bush.

The Committee have to thank Mr. Thos. S. Bush for carrying out the duties of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. It will be seen by the accounts which have been audited by Mr. Isgar, that the Branch is in a sound financial position.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Literary Institution on Thursday, April 8th, 1915, at 4.30 o'clock. Present: Lord Hylton (President) in the chair, Rev. H. H. Winwood, Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn, Rev. Ethelbert Horne, Rev. F. C. Bayliss, Rev. R. M. Perks, Colonel Clayton, Colonel Kirkwood, Colonel Leigh, Colonel T. Arnoll Davis, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, Mr. M. H. Scott, Miss Holt, Miss Knight, Miss Blathwayt, Mrs. Thos. S. Bush, Miss E. M. Wood, Miss Rodman, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tanner, Miss E. E. Salmon, Miss L. M. Salmon, Miss Massy, Mr. E. Cay Adams, Mr. Gerald Grey, Hon. Excursion Secretary, and Mr. Thos. S. Bush, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported that Earl Waldegrave, Prebendary Wadmore and Mr. Robert C. Bush had notified that they would be unable to attend.

The President proposed the adoption of the report and accounts (these were taken as read, having been printed and circulated).

Colonel Leigh seconded. Carried.

Colonel Kirkwood proposed, and Colonel Clayton seconded, the re-election of Lord Hylton as President. Carried unanimously.

The Rev. H. H. Winwood proposed the election of Earl Waldegrave, Lord Strachie, and Mr. Charles T. Foxcroft as Vice-Presidents. Mr. Winwood pointed to the fact that out of 171 Members of this Society, only 30 belonged to the Parent Society, and only 17 of these resided in Bath. He then called attention to the lectures that had been delivered, and hoped Members would come forward—not necessarily with elaborate papers—and so help to continue them during next season.

Mr. M. H. Scott having seconded the election of Vice-Presidents, it was duly carried.

Lord Hylton's suggestion that the Secretary should write to Mr. Foxcroft conveying regret at his enforced return home from active service through illness and the hope that he will speedily recover, was cordially adopted.

The following resolutions were duly carried:

The Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn proposed, and Mr. E. Cay Adams seconded, that the Rev. H. H. Winwood, Colonel Clayton, Mr. St. David Kemeys-Tynte, Colonel Kirkwood, Colonel Leigh, Mr. George Norman, Mr. M. H. Scott and Mr. F. Shum form the Committee for the ensuing year.

Mr. Kemeys-Tynte proposed, and Colonel Arnoll Davis seconded, the election of Mr. Thos. S. Bush as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Bush returned thanks for his re-election.

The Rev. Ethelbert Horne proposed, and the Rev. F. C. Bayliss seconded, the re-election of Mr. Gerald Grey as Hon. Excursion Secretary.

Mr. Grey having returned thanks for his election, said that the following excursions had been provisionally arranged : Downside and Stratton-on-the-Fosse ; Kilmersdon, Hemington, Hardington and Hassage ; Stanton Drew and Chew Magna ; Wingfield, Road, Woolverton and Hinton Priory ; Corsham and Chapel Plaister.

The meeting closed with thanks to Lord Hylton for presiding, proposed by the Rev. R. M. Perks and seconded by Colonel Kirkwood.

EXCURSIONS.

Downside and Stratton-on-the-Fosse.

MEMBERS have on several occasions been indebted to the Rev. Father Horne, not only for his valuable lectures, the result of much archæological research, but also for his efforts to make their excursions profitable. Once more he has laid the Society under a debt of obligation to him, for on Wednesday, April 14th, he acted as guide when a large party of members visited Downside and Stratton-on-the-Fosse. The excursion was the first of the season and took place in bright Spring-like weather.

On arriving at Downside the visitors were cordially welcomed by the Prior. He was, he remarked, very glad to see so many representatives of such a distinguished Society. Downside might claim their attention from an archæological standpoint, but although they had a very venerable member in the community who had reached the age of 80, he did not think they could be called "archæological specimens." (Laughter.)

The Rev. Father Horne before conducting the party round the Abbey, School and Monastery, delivered the following address :—

"I think it will add to the interest of these buildings which you are about to see if you have a brief outline of the history of the community who live in them. You are all familiar with the story of St. Gregory the Great sending St. Augustine and forty Benedictine monks to this country from Rome in the year 596. From that date to the suppression of the monasteries by Henry VIII. in 1538 is a period, in round numbers, of a thousand years. During those ages you know the work the Benedictines did for England, for much of it still remains. Westminster Abbey and St. Albans, Durham and Ely, Gloucester, Tewkesbury and York Minster, and in our own County, Glaston, Muchelney, Cannington, Athelney and Bath and many more, all witness to their love of building great and solemn churches in which to worship God. It was they too who through dark and ignorant ages saved learning and gave it, and who taught agriculture and redeemed wild stretches of land, who made roads and built bridges and gave water

Photo Miss Blathwayt.

DOWNSIDE ABBEY.

supplies, and were foremost in all that was of solid practical use to their neighbours. It is true that at the time of the suppression of these religious houses their enemies said all kinds of terrible things about the personal character of the monks, and no one would care to say that out of so large a number of men, aiming at so difficult a life, that some did not fall short of their high calling. But when we remember that the whole of the evidence against them is taken from the report drawn up by those who were sent to steal their treasures, that they might hand them over to a rapacious king, we may well ask ourselves what is the value of their testimony. Fountains do not send forth sweet waters and bitter at the same time, and it is difficult to believe that men who were anxious, up to the last, for the beauty of God's House, and the way He was served in it, were at the same time leading bad and immoral lives. Whether they were good or bad is now only a question of history, and the ruin that overtook those glorious buildings must always be to those who love the past a sad page in our country's history. The monks of Westminster shared the same fate as their brothers elsewhere, and they were cast out of their own property into a world that they thought they had left. For a brief moment, in Mary's reign, they were back again in the old place, but it was very brief, and when Elizabeth came to the throne she finished effectively the work her father had begun. One monk of Westminster, Father Sigebert Buckley, had been kept by Elizabeth in one or other of her prisons, and he was the sole survivor of that long line of Benedictines from Augustine till his own day—in him were centred the traditions of a thousand years. On November 21, 1607, two young Englishmen made their way into the Gate-house prison, and there Father Buckley received and professed them as monks of Westminster, and so handed on to them all that was centred in himself. It was a strange scene in that dim prison on a late November afternoon, when the old monk, well over 90 years of age and almost blind, saved to England the English Benedictines who had done so much for her.

"A small house was taken at Douai, in Flanders, and there the community began to gather, and the old life to be led once again as circumstances would allow. In the neighbouring city of Arras existed a great house of Benedictines, dedicated to St. Vedast, and presided over by a very notable man, Abbot Caverel, whose statue you will see presently. He came to the rescue of the struggling little community and gave them money to build a monastery, and a certain endow-

ment, and hence he may be considered the founder of the house. They dedicated it to St. Gregory the Great, and before long a school was opened for the sons of English gentlefolk, who were denied the exercise of their religion by the penal laws then in force. The first Superior—they were too few at first to have a Prior, still less an Abbot—was the Ven. John Roberts, who later came over to England to minister to those of his religion, and in 1610 was caught while saying Mass, tried for being a Catholic priest in this country, contrary to the Act of Elizabeth, and drawn, hanged and quartered at Tyburn on December 12th, 1610. We are proud to count four others of our Fathers, who, during the persecution, laid down their lives for the un-reformed religion in this same way. For nearly 200 years these English Benedictines lived and flourished in Flanders, until at length the great French Revolution of 1792 drove them back to their native country. They found a temporary resting place at the home of an old pupil, Sir Edward Smythe, at Acton Burnell, in Shropshire, and in 1814 they bought the farmhouse here which you will see directly. Of the buildings we can speak as we go through them, but a point of interest to many of you will be—What do these Benedictine monks here, do with themselves? Well, I expect we do just what our brethren in this country did for centuries. First of all, our work in the church, saying or singing the Divine Office, is our central occupation, and absorbs a good deal of time. After that we teach in the School, supply priests to the some 25 churches attached to the Abbey (St. John's, at Bath, is one that will be well-known to most of you), and the mere administration of a place of this size occupies the time of a good many. In numbers we vary between 30 and 40. The community's day's work is as follows (I am not speaking of the boys in the School, for their horarium is entirely different) :—Rise at 4.30 a.m. Matins and Lauds (sung on great days) at 5 o'clock, lasting till 6.15 or 6.30. Prime at 7. Private Masses of those who are priests (this will show you the reason for the number of altars in the church) at 7.15. Breakfast at 8. High Mass at 9. Office again at 12.50 and dinner at 1. Vespers sung at 5.30. Supper at 7.30 and Compline (sung on great feasts) at 8.30. Bed at 9.30. The spaces in the morning filled in with work, and study for the younger ones. Recreation in the afternoon till 4 p.m. Our meals are in silence as a rule, and a chapter of the Bible is read in English, followed by some book of historical interest, while the meal proceeds. The School is conducted on the lines of an ordinary English Public School, and numbers about 220, a large proportion of whom go into

the Army. At the present time we have about 250 who have been in the School, engaged in fighting for their Country; eleven of these, so far, have their names in the Roll of Honour. A certain number of boys—one or two a year—join the ranks of the community, and for the rest it is recruited from outside.

"I think, with this explanation of the origin and work of the community, you will better understand what the buildings are for that we will now inspect."

The visitors then started on their tour of inspection, and were greatly interested in what they saw. Father Horne supplemented his address by explaining various points of special interest *en route*. The grounds and the Rock Garden were included in the programme, and the privilege of seeing these afforded much interest and was highly appreciated.

Mr. Charles Tite, Joint Hon. Secretary of the Parent Society of the Association, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Father Horne. He considered it had been a red letter day in the history of the Society. It had been a great pleasure to inspect the buildings and he cordially thanked Father Horne in the name of the company. Tea was then served and the company afterwards walked to Stratton-on-the-Fosse, where the Church of St. Vigor was inspected by permission of the Rector (Rev. G. E. Hillyard).

The Rev. Father Horne read the following descriptive account:—

"It is unknown whether there was a church at this spot before the Norman Conquest. The Manor of Stratton is said to have been given by King Edgar to Glastonbury Abbey, and to have been taken away from that Abbey by William the Conqueror, who gave it to the Bishop of Coutance. We may gather this much from the Doomsday survey.

"The earliest parts of the building are Norman of a simple character. The entrance doorway—now within the south porch—the archway between the body of the church and the tower, the lower part of the chancel arch, the old window-heads in the tower, and above all the font, all point to quite the beginnings of Norman architecture in this country. If anything suggests even an earlier church in Saxon times—and as I have said there is no documentary evidence in support of such a theory—it is the font, which is so simple

in design that it could perhaps belong to such a period. This is all that can be said with any certainty as regards the age of the church.

"As usual, this small Norman building, after about two hundred years or so, began to need restoration, and so some time, probably late in the 15th century, it was mended and brought up to date. The round arch would have been taken out of this chancel wall and the opening raised and pointed. The Norman chancel was in all probability the usual apse, for on the outside of the north wall still remains part of its original curve. This was partially pulled down and a square chancel of the size you now see built in its place. This was again re-built, except the east-end, in 1765, as the tablet on the wall tells us, the Rev. Richard Hughes being Rector. Except for the east window itself, therefore, most of the chancel is modern. On the north side a small chapel was built, at some period earlier than this restoration, and was smaller probably than it is at present. An archway was cut in the wall to look into this chapel, and you will notice that the moulding of this arch stops before it reaches the ground. I think this may show that there was a screen across this opening and panelling up to this height, and hence all the lower part of the arch was hidden.

"An altar was put into the chapel; you will see the piscina, where stood the wine and water needed for the Mass. This chapel was considerably enlarged and made into its present rather ugly form in 1782 by the Long family, who at that time lived at Stratton House in this parish. At the 15th century restoration a stained glass window was added to the church, either in this chapel or at the east-end of the chancel. Of that window I shall have more to say presently. Other changes within the church were the addition of the pulpit, which is rather curious and unlike any other pre-Reformation pulpit in the County—for the one in Limpley Stoke Church, which matches it, is in Wilts—and the changing of the round arch between the church and the tower into a pointed one. The effort was not very successful, as you can see. The first two stones of the Norman arch on either side still remain in their original position—the others have been re-cut and have had their angle changed, so that they might rise to a point—at least that is what the builder aimed at, but it is difficult to convert a round arch to a pointed one on this system. The small windows of the Norman church gave way to the larger lights you now see, although some of them are modern, and a beautiful oak door, still very perfect, was substituted for the older one. It is

interesting to see a door like this, of the Perpendicular period, adapted to fit into the old Norman round arch. I wish the restorers of the 15th century had acted on this principle a little more often. Outside the door the porch was built, and it is probably the most beautiful feature in this otherwise rather plain church. The moulding of the outer doorway is particularly worth notice, as is also the form of the canopy above the niche. I think these changes will have completed the conversion of a simple Norman church into one of the Perpendicular style.

"Of the furniture of the church there is not much to be said. I have already mentioned the pulpit and the font; the contrast between these two reaches the very extreme of styles! Of the ancient altar and its piscina no trace remains, and we are not surprised at this, as the chancel was rebuilt in the 18th century. There are three bells in the tower, cast in 1719 by the Rudhalls, of Gloucester, a family who made many bells for North Somerset between 1684 and 1830, and they bear the trade mark of a bell between the letters A.R., standing for Abraham Rudhall, the founder of the firm. The largest, which is two feet in height, has the inscription, 'Peace and Good Neighbourhood.' This bell was re-cast in 1906, at Bristol, by Messrs. Llewellins and James, and the name of the then Rector (the Rev. O. R. Barnicott) and the church-wardens (Messrs. Bryant and Woods) were added to the inscription. The second bell is 1 foot 9 inches in height and has the inscription, 'Prosperity to the Parish,' and the third, which is 1 foot 7 inches, has 'God Save the King' inscribed upon it.

"The organ deserves a passing notice, for it has been rather a fickle instrument, if I may be allowed such an expression. It was originally made for George IV. and was used in the Pavilion at Brighton—I suppose chiefly for secular music. It then took a religious turn, for shortly after 1822 it was bought second-hand for the old chapel at the Abbey. Here it was used to accompany High Mass and Vespers, until the Abbey Church was completed in 1905, when it was translated thither. On our acquiring a new organ a few years ago it was again sold, this time to the late Rector (Dr. Barnicott), and now it seems equally happy playing to Church of England services. With such a history one doubts if this is really its final change of opinion.

"The two windows in the north chapel are well worth studying. They are made up of fragments of 14th century

glass (and it is thought that some pieces may be earlier), with a few bits of Dutch of the 16th century, all patched and joined together with some hideous pieces of amber and violet glass, dating probably from the time when the Longs built the chapel in 1782. At the same date they are said to have removed portions of this window, and to have taken them to Babington House. The present tenant has kindly shown me these four figures, set in amber, violet, and a terrible blue glass, in a staircase window. I should say these figures did really come from the Parish Church, for there are scraps of foliage of exactly the same pattern as those here, mixed up with the figures. I hope to photograph and to examine these figures much more carefully later on, and perhaps their portraits may find a place in our volume of "Proceedings."

"There is only one person of note buried in the church, and his grave is now under the organ. This is Sir Lislebone Long, who was born in 1613. He was appointed Speaker on March 9th, 1658, and exercised his office in the House of Commons for one day, as Parliament was dissolved at once and did not meet again until after Sir Lislebone's death, which happened about seven days from his appointment.

"Of the priests who served this church in pre-Reformation times we have a list of 22 names, beginning with Robert de Dokenhull in 1312, and ending with Thomas Webbe in 1554, who was deprived for non-conformity to the newer order of things. A distinguished name in the list is that of Hugh Sugar, who was priest here from 1453 to 1454. He was given this living by Edward, Duke of Somerset. He afterwards became Archdeacon of Bath and then Treasurer of Wells Cathedral. During the vacancy of the See of Wells, after Bishop Beckington's death, he filled the post of Vicar-General. His chantry in the nave of Wells is probably well-known to most of you. His arms, three sugar loaves and a doctor's cap, are there displayed.

"Lastly, I think I ought to say something of the dedication of this church, for it is an extremely rare one in this country, there being only one other church in England, that of Fulbourne, in Cambridgeshire, dedicated to St. Vigor.

"St. Vigor was born towards the end of the 5th century. He was eventually the 7th Bishop of Bayeux, and converted to Christianity a good part of the North of France, where his feast on November 3rd is still widely kept. His predecessor in the See was St. Vedast, and he had been the master and friend of St. Vigor. I told you that William the Conqueror

gave the Manor of Stratton to a cleric who was in attendance upon him, Geoffrey, Bishop of Coutance. Now Coutance is not far from Bayeux, and so it is not difficult to see how the name of St. Vigor became linked with the Mendip church. And there is yet a further reason for the dedication. The Bishop of Coutance died in 1093, and he would appear to have left his Somerset property to friends or relatives in France. We find 150 years later that Stratton Manor was still owned by a certain Thomas de Sancti Vigor, which may mean that he was a native of the village of St. Vigor le Grand, which is not far either from Coutance or Bayeux, and is the place where St. Vigor was born. There is just one other matter about this dedication I should like to mention, because it is so curious.

"I said, when relating the story of the beginning of the community now at Downside, that Abbot Caverel, the Abbot of Vedast's Abbey at Arras, gave the money for the first foundation of the house, so Downside was founded from St. Vedast's. But St. Vedast and St. Vigor were fast friends in life, and, as I have said, the latter succeeded the former in the See of Bayeux. So that when our Fathers bought the Downside property in 1814, they came again close, as it were, to the Saint that they had recently left in France, and of course they were quite ignorant of the dedication of this church to St. Vigor when they purchased the old farm-house. The last remark I need make is that the church can boast of possessing three scratch dials, one a very early one, and one that I think I may defy most of you to find.

"Of the village itself—always a very small one—I have nothing to say, for it never seems to have been of much importance. The Roman road that runs from about Exeter to Lincoln passes through it, and where we have opened it the original cobble stones are intact, and showing the wear of ages. Quite recently the heavy rains of this last winter have laid bare a portion of the old road.

"The old Manor House is next door neighbour to this church, and parts of it are of great antiquity. In Edward IV.'s reign the Lord of the Manor petitioned the King for the right to have a gallows at Stratton, but we do not know where he set up the fatal post, or why he wanted to hang anyone in a place so sparingly populated as this must have been in those days. Then there were fish-ponds in the valley opposite the church gate, evidently belonging to the Manor, and you can see traces of them still. I do not call to mind anything else in the village that should be mentioned."

Mr. St. David Kemeys-Tynte proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Father Horne for the graphic account he had given them, and also to the Rector for allowing them the privilege of inspecting the church. This was carried by acclamation.

The Members then returned to the char-a-bancs, having spent an enjoyable afternoon, and Bath was regained in good time, viz., 6.45.

THE OLD GLASS AT BABINGTON HOUSE.

Reference was made in the paper on the Parish Church at Stratton-on-the-Fosse to the story that a quantity of old glass had been removed in the 18th century from the Long chapel and taken to Babington House. I have been able, through the kindness of the present occupant, Lady Neville, to photograph the staircase window at Babington, which contains pieces of ecclesiastical glass. The four figures here reproduced are the only specimens of this kind of glass—probably 15th century—in the window, the rest being made up of various pieces of a much later date, joined together with amber and violet glass, added at the time of the removal from the Parish Church. The top left-hand figure, No. 1, is a king, but unfortunately the photograph makes no distinction between his hair and his crown, which are quite distinct and plain in the original. His left hand is on a book, and a sword appears to rest on his knees. The other three figures seem to be clerics wearing round caps and fur-lined habits. In height they are about 17 inches. The scrolls are made of various bits, some being put in backwards and upside down. The lower left-hand figure, No. 3, has part of his habit replaced by foliage, exactly similar to some remaining in the old window in the Parish Church. The whole window deserves a careful study, as do various pieces of old glass that have been put in other windows at Babington.

ETHELBERT HORNE.

November 18th, 1915.

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Photo Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

OLD GLASS AT BABINGTON HOUSE.

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Photo Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

OLD GLASS AT BABINGTON HOUSE.

Kilmersdon, Hardington and Hemington.

The second excursion took place on Wednesday, May 26th, under auspicious climatic conditions. Motor char-a-bancs left Queen Square at 2.30, and Kilmersdon was reached after a pleasant run of about three-quarters of an hour's duration. Lord Hylton (President of the Bath Branch), who was to have given an account of the church of St. Peter and St. Paul and a short history of the parish, was unavoidably absent. Lady Hylton handed Mr. Gerald Grey the following letter :—

"25th May, 1915.

"Dear Mr. Grey,

"Having just received a summons to a meeting of the Conservative Members of both Houses at noon to-day in Town, I am most reluctantly compelled to forego the pleasure of joining the party under your leadership to-day. Pray make my excuses to them and express my great regret at my unavoidable absence.

"Yours truly,

"HYLTON."

The Rev. Cecil G. Norton, Vicar of Kilmersdon, in the regretted absence of Lord Hylton, gave the visitors an interesting account of the church and parish. The church, it was pointed out, was the result of 15th century additions to a building of Norman origin. There were still traces of Norman work in the south wall. One of the original Norman windows still existed; outside was a fish-scale moulding alternating with boldly carved corbels; and a Norman arch led into a modern vestry, which occupied the site of a former south porch. There were also the remains of a Norman arch in the north wall of the chancel. It was thought by some authorities that the builders of the 15th century were very conservative of the Norman work, and though they pulled down the north wall of the nave in order to add their aisle, they merely raised the south wall and inserted two rows of windows.

A peculiarity about the church is the extraordinary shortness of the chancel, which was entirely restored in 1878 and a new east window inserted. The existing Perpendicular chancel arch must, it is conjectured, have replaced a low Norman arch. The angel-corbels and roof-cornice in the nave does not support the existing roof, which indicates that the old roof was higher. The work in the ceiling of the north aisle is of a very

rich character. In pre-Reformation times a charge of 8s. 8d. was made on land in the parish for the maintenance of a light in the chapel at the end of the north aisle. Local tradition says that the screen in this chapel was removed from the Church of St. Andrew, Holborn, but Lord Hylton and others do not accept this, being of opinion that the screen was built for its present place. The church tower bears a strong family resemblance to the towers at Mells, Leigh-on-Mendip, Hemington, and Chewton Mendip. There are some very massive Perpendicular bench-ends in the church.

Richard Symons, writing as long ago as 1644, said the east window was then very ancient and contained two coats of arms, but the only pre-Reformation glass still existing is some tiny pieces in the upper part of the chantry upper windows. An object of interest was the oak Communion table, which is Jacobean; the rails which stood in front of it in Collinson's time recorded that they expressed the thankfulness felt at the staying of the plague in 1625. There are no mediæval brasses or tombs in the church. The brasses formerly existing were sold in 1636. When the Somersetshire Society visited the church four years ago Mr. Bligh Bond agreed that the original church was Norman, and said that it seemed to have been a parallelogram of which only the south and east walls, within a few feet of the north at its eastern extremity, remained. The date was probably not much later than 1100. Both nave and chancel of the existing church were built in the Norman shell.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Bligh Bond disagrees with those who believe that the stone screen was built for the church. His views upon this archæological bone of contention, as expressed by him upon the occasion of the visit of the Parent Society, are as follows:—"Obviously," he said, "the stone screen did not belong to its place, and tradition spoke of it having come from another church—St. Andrew's, Holborn, to wit. He had always thought that the story must be a mistaken origin, since neither in design nor in material (Oolite) did the screen suggest so remote a birthplace, and the probabilities were against it having been transported so far. He thought that the story might have an authentic substratum, but that it was most likely vitiated by some clumsy error. Though too early for a definite theory on that subject, it would be interesting to speculate on it, and the following was therefore to be regarded as a mere speculation. The problem was to find a church in the neighbourhood dedicated to St. Andrew, and having a name not unlike 'Holborn,' a church

Photos Mr. Gerald J. Grey.

GARGOYLES, KILMERSDON.

Photos Mr. Gerald J. Grey.

GARGOYLES, KILMERSDON.

to some extent mutilated or dismantled. That seemed capable of a ready solution, though the truth could only be determined by examination of the church, which was an out-of-the-way one. He referred to St. Andrew's, Holcombe, about three miles from Kilmersdon—a little church about a mile from its village, superseded by a new one, and used for occasional services only. Stone screens were by no means rare in small churches near the north-east border of the County, though they were more common in Wiltshire. The old benches in the church would appear to be about a century older in date than the aisle, and as they could never have fitted the narrow Norman nave it seemed reasonable to suppose that they came also from another church. The tower seemed of very late date, yet good in conception and detail. There was an unusual and graceful taper to the buttress and the pinnacle faces in the upper stage. The weakest feature was again in the interior, which exhibited a very flat and tame panelling to the soffit of the arch at the entrance to the nave. Two other features of a miscellaneous order claimed attention. They were the fine iron strap-hinges on the north door and the excellent niche-work in the eastern angles of the wall of the north chantry."

[It should be stated that Lord Hylton rejects this theory, being of opinion that there could not have been in Holcombe Church a screen of the kind of that at the east-end of the north aisle of Kilmersdon Church.]

Colonel Hendley Kirkwood said they much regretted the absence of Lord Hylton, but they were pleased to have the honour of the presence of Lady Hylton. They tendered their most hearty thanks to the Rev. Cecil G. Norton for the graphic description he had given them of the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul and the history of the parish.

A short run was then made to Hardington, where, under the guidance of the Rector (the Rev. J. S. Raymond), the Church of St. Mary the Virgin was visited. An inspection of this quaint old church was much appreciated, and the description given by the Vicar of the church and parish was extremely interesting. Hardington, which was originally Hadington, possesses in St. Mary's Church a building of unusual interest to archæologists. The building, which is in good preservation, retains several Norman features. There is a stoup in the wall at the entrance near the south door. The Royal Arms are in the church in commemoration of a visit of Charles I., 1640, and there is an entry in the churchwardens'

accounts for "repairs to King's chair." The font is Saxon. A vault in the chancel contains four lead coffins (Bampfylde family), and there is a very handsome marble monument to members of the same family on the north wall of the chancel (1694).

By permission of Mr. H. W. Bush, Hardington Manor was also visited, and the visitors enjoyed their ramble round this quaint old Manor house. Little remains of the original building, the ancient seat of the Bampfyldes, which many years ago was destroyed by fire. The Bampfylde crest is over the front doorway. An interesting old plaster overmantel and the handsome fire-place are features of the dining-room. The ladies were interested in the ancient hot dresser and iron plate in the kitchen. The cellar arches are very old and curious. In the remains of the large stabling the names of two horses still appear over the stalls. The Bampfylde family was a notable one and possessed many manors. The present Lord Poltimore's family are distantly related to the Bampfyldes.

The Members afterwards went on to Hemington, the church of which was also described by Mr. Raymond. This church is full of architectural interest. The unusually narrow chancel arch is Norman (circa 1100-1120), and has some delicately cut ornamentation on the capitals. Archæologists consider this to be the sole structural relic of the earlier church, though there is a curious Norman font with a double ring of escallops. The south aisle and a chancel chapel are continuous, with remains of very fine Early English work in the south door and the internal arches and jambs of the windows, but the original window tracery has been removed to make room for 15th century tracery. The ceiling (Perpendicular, flat panelled and restored) is supported by brackets on grotesque stone corbels, some with distorted figures suggestive of folly (cap and bell), greed, avarice, etc. One represents a crafty abbot with a goose hanging over his shoulder, another is a fat monk with a money bag. The work is regarded as having been executed about 1230, and was probably done by someone who had a grudge against the monks. The arcade to the nave is thought to be about the middle of the 13th century, as also are the two arches at the south side of the chancel. Some figures on the west wall outside are very curious; one in the cornice has a small head over a large one. Those below have: (1) a basket (2) a pilgrim's hat or friar's hat and staff. The pewing is regarded as of the early Stuart period or rather later. There are two 15th century wooden doors on the south and west.

Photo Miss Rodman.

NORMAN CORBELS, KILMERSDON.

Photo Miss Rodman.

HEMINGTON CHURCH-

The porch is, according to Mr. Bligh Bond, rather eccentric Victorian work, and the vestry on the north side is of the same character.

After a short run to Norton St. Philip, where tea was partaken of at the George Inn, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. J. S. Raymond, on the proposition of the Rev. F. H. Mules, for his kindness in describing the Church of St. Mary the Virgin at Hardington and the Church of St. Mary the Virgin at Hemington. Bath was reached shortly after 6.30.

Stanton Drew and Chew Magna.

Brilliant weather favoured this excursion on Tuesday, June 16th. Leaving Queen Square at 1.30 p.m., a drive of an hour brought the members to Stanton Drew. Here the Rev. H. H. Winwood was waiting to conduct the visitors round the "stone circles." The Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club—including Mr. Richardson, F.G.S., Hon. Sec., and Mr. Alfred Hudd, F.S.A.—who were holding their monthly field meeting at Stanton Drew at the same time, had the benefit of hearing Mr. Winwood's interesting address.

Of the three stone circles of Stonehenge, Avebury, and Stanton Drew, the latter was, said Mr. Winwood, considered the oldest. The Sarsen trilithons of Stonehenge showed evidence of tooling in their mortices and tenons, whereas the megalithic stones of Avebury and Stanton Drew bore no evidence of any artificial work whatever, and were set up as they were found. As to the nature and origin of these monoliths, Mr. Winwood said he had the privilege of accompanying Professor Lloyd Morgan during his researches, which were published in the Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, and those of the Bristol Naturalists' Field Club, of which he gave a summary. Many theories, miraculous and otherwise, had accounted for the presence of the stones at that particular spot, but the advance of geology in recent years enabled them to clear up all these imaginations of the unscientific mind, and to prove that the old folk who erected them found them at hand not far off. They might still be seen near East Harptree and the neighbourhood. Most of them, nearly all, were of the Dolomitic Conglomerate and Breccia which fringed the Mendip Hills. One or two were Sandstone, and one certainly Oolited Limestone, probably

from the Inferior Oolite of Dundry. Mr. Richardson, the Secretary of the Cotteswold Club, discovered evidence of the fact by pointing out a coral isastria characteristic of the Inferior Oolite. The speaker believed this was the first discovery of such a nature. As to the people who erected these circles, evidence had accumulated to prove that they were the work of the pre-historic people of the Neolithic or Bronze age. As to their object or use, whether as memorials of some great battle, sacrificial altars, temples for worship, solar or sidereal observatories, or, finally—one of the latest theories—for an agricultural calendar, the speaker ventured to think that they might have served the purpose for the meetings of the tribes for their "pow-wows" and religious observance—probably sun worship ; also as memorials of the death of some great chieftain and others. Might not the "cove" south of the church have been a Dolman erected for the burial of such a one ?

Mr. Winwood was heartily thanked by the Members for his highly interesting address.

After inspecting the famous megalithic remains the party paid a visit to the church, a short account of which was read by the newly-appointed Vicar (the Rev. W. W. Warren). The foundations of the Church of St. Mary were evidently laid within the precincts of the surrounding Druidic remains. The oldest remaining portion of the church is the font, the base of which seems older than the bowl, and belongs to the Early Norman, if not Saxon, period. There were some fragments of Norman work found among the stones of the old bell-turret which apparently once formed part of a Norman corbel table. They are now placed for safety under the cap of the new bell-turret. The church has gone through great changes, and but little of the earlier structure is to be seen.

The journey was then resumed to Chew Magna, where the church was inspected, the visitors being welcomed by General Ommaney (patron of the living) and Mrs. Ommaney, and by Mr. Edward J. Thatcher and Mr. Edward Colston (churchwardens). Mrs. Thatcher was also present. In the unavoidable absence of the Rev. J. J. Galbraith (Vicar) the visitors were indebted to Mr. M. H. Scott for an address.

In his standard work on Chew Magna Mr. Fred A. Wood shows that ecclesiastically Chew Magna had little or no history before the 13th century, but there are indications of at least some connexion with Roman occupation. In 1062 Edward the Confessor gave to his chaplain Giso the Bishopric of Bath and Wells, and among the Manors which he gave to the See

Photos Mr. Gerald J. Grey.

STONES, STANTON DREW.

were those of Chew (with Dundry) and Wedmore. One hundred and thirty years later, namely in 1192, Savaric was elected Bishop by the monks of Bath without the knowledge of the Chapter of Wells, and going to Rome obtained his consecration from the Pope. Presumably in return for the services that the Prior of Bath had done him the Pope gave to the Prior the churches of Chyw and Weston for his own use with the right of patronage. These and many other translations of "crabbed and ungrammatical Latin" show how closely Chew was associated with Bath.

The church of Chew Magna is full of interest to antiquary and architect, and, indeed, to those who can make no pretensions to be either. It is dedicated to St. Andrew, and is, as usual with these old churches, a building of many styles, from Norman to Perpendicular. Of Norman work there are remains in the exterior of the south aisle and possibly in the chancel. The most distinctive part of the Early English period is seen in the arcade dividing the nave from the south aisle, and the Perpendicular includes the buildings of the 15th century, the tower, the north aisle and the St. Lo Chapel, with the arcade dividing the north aisle from the nave, and the chancel arch. These remains—Norman, Early English and Perpendicular—seem to correspond to three epochs in the history of the church. Norman is found on the exterior of the south aisle, including the Baber Chapel, the south and east walls of the chancel, and may have been built soon after Bishop Giso received the See and the grant of the church manor, which was originally the manor of Queen Edith, who gave it to Giso when Edward the Confessor gave him the See. Giso was a fortunate ecclesiastic. The church at Chew, as already stated, was mentioned in 1192, but it is conjectured that it was preceded by a church of wood built by Queen Edith, no traces of which are left. It is regarded as probable that the Norman church was not finished when the manor was given to the Prior of Bath in 1192 ; that the Prior did nothing to it, and that in 1215 the Bishop and the Vicar undertook to complete it. The first Rector or Vicar whose name has come down to us was appointed in 1215, immediately after the Prior of Bath had given up the manor to the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

The south porch is rather interesting ; built towards the end of the reign of Edward III. (1360-1370), it abuts against the south wall of the church. The Norman base of that wall passes behind the porch wall and through the porch to the

base of the Norman lintel of the door of the church, which was, it is believed, deprived of its chevron ornaments when the porch was built. There is a Norman font.

There was undoubtedly in the 15th century a Lady Chapel in the churchyard, but like the first church no traces of it are left, although there is plenty of documentary evidence of its existence. Quite a number of persons between 1416 and 1546 left property to the chapel. Two wills, the date of which is 1533, make it clear that the chapel was not in the church, as for instance "To the Parish Church of Chewe a shepe (sheep), to the Chapel of the Blessed Lady in the Churchyard of Chewe a shepe." In two instances wedding rings were left to the chapel.

The church contains two chapels, the Baber and the St. Lo. A prominent effigy is an old wooden figure of Sir John de Hautenville. This monument is said to have been brought from Norton Hautenville Chapel when the chapel was destroyed at the Reformation. The Knight is lying in a most awkward position, which Collinson erroneously styled "cross-legged." For various reasons the monument is an interesting one for archæologists to speculate upon. It was first placed on the sill of the east window of the Baber Chapel, then placed under a modern canopy by the Rev. Rawde W. Hautenville, Rector of Weston-in-Gordano, who claimed to have descended from the Hautenvilles, and who placed the inscription under the monument: "Sir John de Hautenville, temp. H. III." But this inscription and the monument itself cannot be made to coincide; the armour is of the time of Henry V., and the last of the Hautenvilles died in 1346. It is conjectured that the monument may have been to Sir William Cheyne, who became possessed of the Hautenville property by marriage. There are points in heraldry which those versed in its mysteries are able to assent are not applicable to the Hautenvilles but to the Cheynes. Either the picturesque legend of Sir John Hautenville, who is said to have been with Edward I. in Palestine, must be given up, or we are thrown back upon the absurd theory that the Cheynes in the time of Henry V. erected the effigy to the memory of one of the Hautenvilles and clothed it in the armour of the period when the figure was carved!

Chew Magna possesses a peal of six bells. It is curious to read that in 1735 John Bilbie, the celebrated Somerset bell caster of Chew Stoke, agreed to re-cast five bells then in the

Photo Miss Blathwayt.

CROSS, QUEEN CHARLTON.

Photos Miss Rodman.

STANTON DREW CHURCH.

tower and "a little Tingtang in the church," which, it is conjectured, was the old Sanctus Bell, into a peal of six bells of the same weight. There are two crosses in the churchyard—or, rather, one and the remains of one. The cross is noticed by Pooley in his "Crosses of Somerset," who also gives a sketch of it and full measurements. The other is the base of a cross now turned upside down at the southern entrance of the churchyard, and called the Resting Stone, because used for placing the coffin on it.

The names of the vicars of Chew Magna date from 1190, James Berkeley being the first appointed. Some of the vicars seem to have had an unpleasant time; and one of the de Haselchawes in 1341, "for a trivial fault alleged against him," was, though he submitted to the Bishop, adjudged to do public penance in the Cathedral, and "to walk naked and barefoot and to suffer the severest whipping in all the greater and conventual churches, and in every market town in the diocese." And the Bishop absolutely refused, in spite of entreaties, to mitigate the sentence. But the Haselchawes were always getting into trouble, and the Bishop was no doubt "fed up" with them. The Church House is supposed to have been erected by the Saint Lo family, and bears their arms.

After their inspection of the church the visitors were served with tea at the Bear and Swan Hotel. A vote of thanks was proposed by the Rev. F. Mules to Mr. Scott for the information he had afforded them respecting the church, and to Mr. Colston, the churchwarden, who had conducted the party round. The compliment was acknowledged by Mr. Colston. The general arrangements made by Mr. Gerald Grey, the Hon. Excursion Secretary, again gave every satisfaction.

The return to Bath at 6.30 p.m. ended a highly interesting afternoon.

Hinton Priory, Wingfield, Road and Woolverton.

THIS excursion took place on Friday, July 16th. Unfortunately there was a good deal of rain during the day, but, despite the unfavourable climatic conditions, those who took the excursion were well compensated by what they saw and heard. The charabancs left Laura Place at 1.30, and after a run of about half-an-hour Hinton Priory was reached. The Members, by kind permission of

Mr. F. M. David, were allowed to visit the Priory and much enjoyed a ramble through the quaint and historic old building. The following interesting notes were read by Mr. M. H. Scott:—

Hinton Abbey, as it is now incorrectly called, marks the site of one of the earliest Carthusian Priories founded in England, that at Witham, near Frome, being the earliest. Witham was founded by Henry II. in 1182, in expiation for the murder of Thomas à Becket.

The manors of Hinton and Norton, with large possessions in Wilts, were bestowed by William the Conqueror on Edward de Sarisbui, an ancestor of Ela. Richard I. gave Ela in marriage to William Longespée, whom he created Earl of Salisbury. Longespée was given to good works, and laid the fourth stone of the present Cathedral of Salisbury, Ela laying the fifth, and he was the first person buried in the new Cathedral. Ela was permitted to exercise in her own person the office of Sheriff of Wilts and Castellan of Old Sarum.

She founded Lacock in accordance with a dream. She took the veil on Christmas Day, 1238.

The probable date of the founding of Hinton is 1227, when Ela, only daughter of William d'Evreux, Earl of Salisbury, and widow of William Longespée, son of Henry II. and Joan Clifford, usually called Fair Rosamund, founded Lacock and Hinton, it is said, on the same day, the latter being in substitution for a Carthusian house at Hatherop in Gloucestershire, founded by her husband but found unsuitable. And she granted the Manor of Hinton and Norton, with the advowson of their churches, in endowment for her Priory. Ela died as Abbess of Lacock, where her tomb, removed when the church was destroyed, may still be seen in the cloister.

The dedication of Hinton "In honour of God, the Blessed Mary, St. John the Baptist, and All Saints" was copied from that of Witham.

The number of monks at Hinton was originally 14, but was afterwards increased. In addition there were some 13 conversi, or lay brethren, who tilled the lands at a place called Frary, or Friary, near the bank of the river Frome, about a mile from the Priory, where there are remains of mediæval buildings.

The Carthusians, or the monks of Chartreuse, were founded by Bruno, Archbishop of Cologne. At first their

CHURCH CROSS, CHEW MAGNA.

Photos Miss Rodman.

CHEW MAGNA.

monasteries were placed in almost uninhabited mountain gorges, and their rules were so strict that they were even denied conversation with each other.

There were never more than nine Carthusian houses in England. The rule of St. Bruno was strict. Each monk lived in a separate dwelling; his cell opened from the great cloister. Adjoining his cell were his workshop and his garden; his food was conveyed to him through a hatch. Silence, solitude, and prayer were the precepts of the Order. Only the Prior and the Procurator could go outside the precincts of the monastery, and the monks never saw each other, except when on certain feast days they dined together in the refectory, when absolute silence was preserved, or at the services of the church.

They ate no meat, except in case of sickness; were allowed one loaf of bread a week, and an occasional mess of gruel; their bedding was a horse cloth, a pillow and a skin; and they wore night and day a hair shirt, with the white cloak of the Order in the daytime. The monks occupied their time in prayer, reading, transcribing manuscripts, and working in their gardens and workshops, and they took their turn in the services of the church.

They were buried in the cemetery in the midst of the great cloister, in robe and scapular, the face being covered with the hood, which was then sewn up; the grave was marked by a wooden cross, without any inscription.

The Priory received the usual charters from the Crown, and held their fairs at Norton on the vigil, the day and the morrow of the Feast of SS. Philip and James, and at Hinton for three days at the Feast of St. John the Baptist. But the fair was held so near the Priory that the noise disturbed the monks, and by permission of Edward III. they were allowed to transfer this fair to Norton St. Philip, so that both fairs were held there. Various privileges were granted to the Priory by Henry III. and Richard II., and it received a yearly allowance of a hogshead of wine from the King's butler at Bristol, in return for which they prayed for the welfare of the Royal Family, and for their souls when they died.

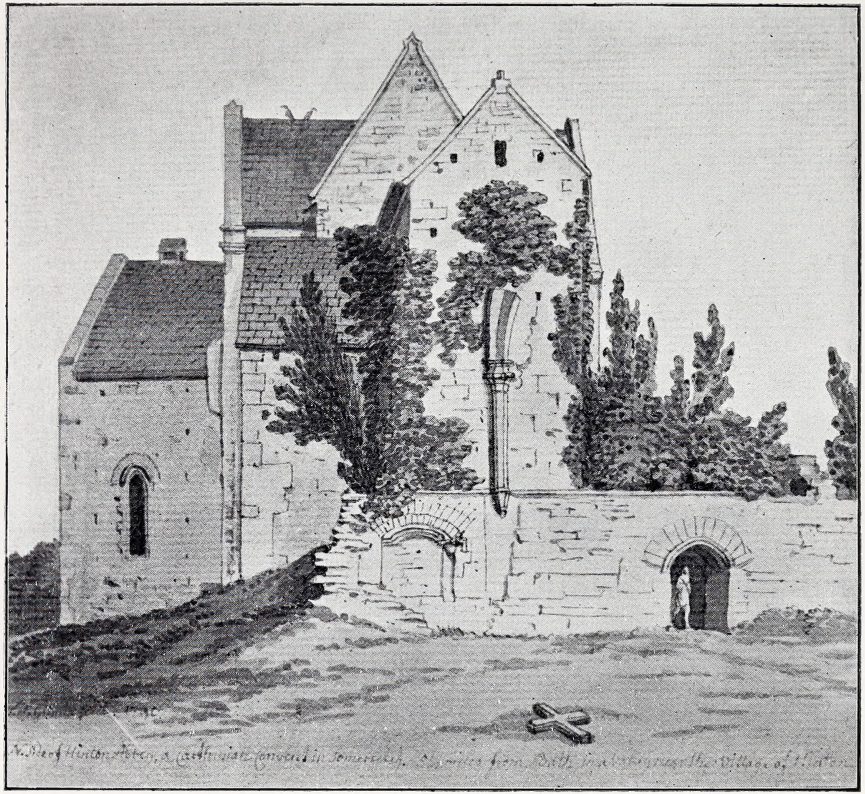
Hinton Priory surrendered to the King's demands on March 31, 1529, the names of Prior Horde and sixteen monks appearing on one deed, which was signed in the Chapter House. Annuities and gratuities were granted to the Prior, monks and lay brothers. It would seem that two of the monks, Nicolas and Ball, who had denied the King's supremacy, did

not sign the deed of surrender. The buildings were given or sold to Sir Walter Hungerford, of Farleigh, but he does not seem to have benefited much by them, for he complained that Sir Thomas Arundell, and Henry Champreys, of Orchardleigh, had carried off much of the church property, and broken into the Prior's cell. And Sir Walter himself was beheaded in the following year (1541); it is not quite clear why, for he had received from Henry VII. much of his father's forfeited estates, in acknowledgment of his services against Richard III., and had received a peerage in 1536. His friend, Thomas Cromwell, was beheaded at the same time and place.

The Priory came to the Hungerfords again in 1578, after passing through several hands, and in 1599 it was leased to Mrs. Shaa, sister of Sir Edward Hungerford. After again leaving and returning to the Hungerfords, Hinton passed to the Baynton family, and thence to others.

About 1635 the Grange of Hinton was leased to the Countess of Rutland, widow of Sir E. Hungerford. Prince Henry, son of James I. (1615), and Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I. (1616), held the Manor of Hinton and Norton. Mr. Foxcroft's house occupies the site of the Grange of the Priory, the name being preserved in the "Grange Farm," which immediately adjoins it.

The church, Prior's lodge, monk's dwellings, and the cloisters, have disappeared. Two small blocks only remain; one is of three storeys, of which the lowest was probably the Chapter House. It is a vaulted building of the early part of the 13th century, with triple lancet east windows, a single north and south window, a fine piscina and an aumbry. In the recess where the altar stood are traces of the reredos. On the north side is a passage leading to what was probably the sacristy, and thence into the church, one fragment of the groining of which remains, with a single sedile. A spiral staircase leads to a vaulted room, possibly the library or record room, with seats in the recesses of the windows. A curious indenture of the year 1343 is in existence, specifying certain books as having been lent by the Prior and Convent of Hinton to another religious house, and containing an engagement under seal that the books shall be safely restored. The windows at the east end of the library or record room have been cut away to form an entrance into the space over the east bay of the Chapter House, the roof having been raised, probably after the Dissolution, and the walls filled with dovecotes; other dovecotes are in the roof space above the library,



Sketch A.D. 1790. *Photo Middleton Ashman & Co.*

HINTON PRIORY.

probably 16th or 17th century. Corbels may be noticed in the room adjoining the library and elsewhere. The presence of corbels suggests a covered passage running from the Chapter House to the Refectory, and also a Cloister or Ambulatory on the south side of the Refectory.

Some distance west of the Chapter House is a groined room, about twenty feet square, which may have been the Refectory or part of a guest house, and adjoining this is the kitchen with fire-place and buttery; above is a long room which may have been one guest's dormitory. All this seems to be of the same date as the Chapter House; there are in the stable traces of a fifteenth century building.

To the west are the "Spear Ponds," whence the monks drew their supply of water through leaden pipes, some of which have been found beneath the ground.

It is possible that part of the present dwelling house may have formed a portion of the fifteenth century part of the monastery, but it could hardly have been the Prior's house, as his lodging was usually on the west of the church, the position of which, on the north side of the Chapter House, is indicated by the remains of the springing of an arch. The foundations of many of the buildings can be traced in a dry summer. There is no trace of a cemetery; this was probably on the north-east of the Chapter House.

The wall on the road leading to Freshford may be part of the old enclosing wall of the demesne.

These notes are chiefly taken from a paper by Mr. Wallace Gill in the Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Society for 1900 (Vol. XXIII.), and a paper by Mr. E. T. D. Foxcroft in the Proceedings of the Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club, 1891 (Vol. VII.).

Mr. Gerald Grey moved a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Scott for his interesting paper on the history of Hinton Priory, and this was carried by acclamation.

HINTON PRIORY.

We are indebted to Mr. George Gregory for the privilege of reproducing the two views of Hinton Priory; they are slightly reduced from the originals.

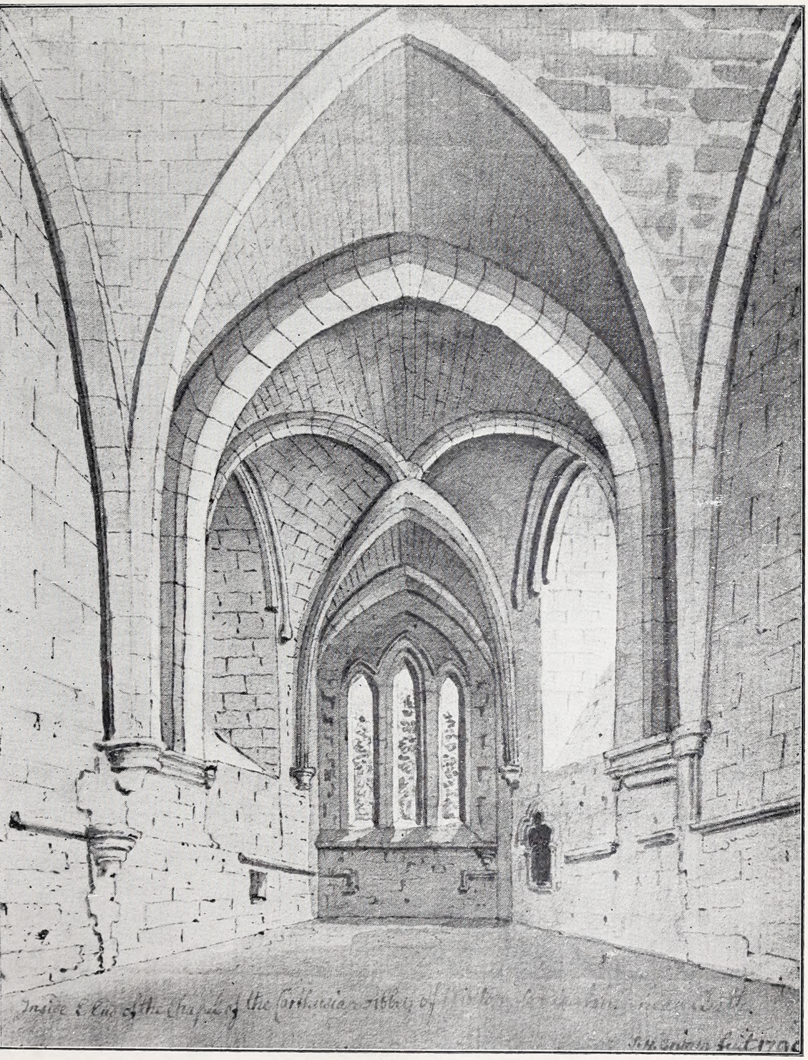
Mr. Gregory is in possession of the three volumes of Dugdale's Monasticon, which have been enlarged to ten volumes; nearly all are fully interleaved and have 199

original water-colour drawings by S. H. Grimm, in addition to a large number of engravings. S. H. Grimm was a native of Switzerland, but spent most of his life in England, and was employed by the Society of Antiquaries in drawing architectural views. He died in April, 1794, aged 60, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Paul's, Covent Garden. The British Museum possess a number of his sketches; six of these the writer has had photographed. One of the views has on it in faint writing " N. side of Hinton Abbey, a Carthusian Convent in Somersetsh., 5½ miles from Bath, in a valley near the village of Hinton." On the other is " Inside the E. end of the Chapel of the Carthusian Abbey of Hinton, Somersetsh., near Bath." Both are signed " S. H. Grimm, fecit 1790."

THOS. S. BUSH.

The Members afterwards went on to Wingfield, where the party had been kindly invited by Lady Caillard to inspect the beautiful grounds adjoining the house. It was a disappointment that the rain prevented the Members enjoying this privilege to the maximum, as only a drive through the grounds could be taken. Lady Caillard not only invited the guests to see the grounds, but cordially welcomed them to Wingfield House, where light refreshments were provided in the dining-room ; here, by the way, an excellent oil painting of the late Judge Caillard, who for many years was a notable figure in Bath Society, was noticed. It was found that the residence had been converted into a hospital for invalided soldiers, and that Lady Caillard, her daughter, and niece, had personally undertaken the nursing. The visitors had the privilege of visiting the wards, which provided accommodation for sixteen patients, and the inmates looked happy and comfortable, and were full of appreciation of the kindly attentions they received. The visitors afterwards inspected the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, and a short history of the church and parish was given by the Rev. Richard Earle, Rector.

The church, which dates from about 1390, was restored in the 18th century. The tower is of 14th century (late). The belfry contains three bells, one of which bears the inscription : " Drawe near to God," with the date 1607. Another bears the date 1611, but the other is by a Bristol founder about 1500-1520. The nave of the church was renewed in 1844 (wagon roof with modern finials). The chancel arch, which is



Sketch A.D. 1790. *Photo Middleton Ashman & Co.*

HINTON PRIORY.

Perpendicular, has vine leaf and oak leaf corbels. The north transept was added to the church in 1861. The church contains several monuments, the oldest being one to Christopher Baylie, who died 9th April, 1663. There are memorials to two former Rectors, namely, the Rev. Edward Spencer, who died February 9th, 1819, in his 80th year, and a late Rector, the Rev. Edward Meade, who died Easter Eve, 1887. To the latter the east window in the chancel was erected. The clock in front of the gallery (date about 1830), which was at one time the property of the Rev. Prebendary Meade, was presented to the church in 1908 by Sir Edward Vincent Caillard. The Communion table made of Padouk wood (Pterocarpris Indiens), redwood from the Andaman Islands, was placed in memory of Theresa Cardew, wife of John Haydon Cardew, Rector of Wingfield, by Cornelius Edward Cardew, December, 1895. Of interest to ecclesiastical antiquaries is the church plate; there is a silver flagon, paten and chalice (date 1750), the gift of Martha Parker, and a silver paten (undated) the gift of John Bayly, about 1660. The registers date back to 1654. There is a banns book from 1823 to the present time.

Before leaving, the cordial thanks of the Members to Lady Caillard were voiced by the Rev. F. Mules. A vote of thanks to the Rev. Richard Earle was also passed, on the motion of the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn. The party then travelled to Road.

After tea at St. Lawrence's Hall, the Members proceeded to the church, where the Rector (the Rev. H. W. Davy) gave a short description of the building.

Road Church, dedicated to St. Lawrence the Martyr, consists of chancel with vestry, nave with north and south aisles and tower. The tower is of late Perpendicular date, not much earlier than Bath Abbey, and is remarkable for the length of its sides in proportion to its height. At the north-east corner there is a stair turret, and it was from the top of this, called the "King's Chair," that tradition says Prince Charles, after the battle of Worcester, viewed the country for signs of his pursuers, the Parliament soldiers.

In 1872 a restoration of the church was commenced under Mr. C. E. Davis, of Bath. The organ chamber and vestry were built at this time, and traces of a smaller church which had previously stood upon the site were discovered. In the nave the foundations of a small earlier tower were found, so that the church must now be at least one bay longer than it was originally.

The earliest portion of the present church is thought to date from about 1470, but the nave and north aisle are much later. The decorated windows of the earlier church were cut away at the Perpendicular restoration, and windows of that style inserted in their place. These again were removed, and what may be called " domestic " windows put in their place. Mr. Davis, at the 1872 restoration, took these out and put in the present windows.

The nave had a clerestory, but in 1770 a new roof was put on by a Trowbridge architect, who pulled the walls down as low as the sills of the clerestory windows, and inserted windows of a very ugly type. These have been removed and new windows substituted in accordance with the traces left of those destroyed. A new roof of the Perpendicular style was put on the nave and the plaster removed from the old oak timbers in the south aisle. The original roof remains in the north aisle, and is of the wagon-beam pattern often found in our Somerset churches. The squints on either side of the chancel arch, which would have enabled those sitting in the side aisles to see the altar, have been preserved, as have also been the lower steps leading to the rood-loft. It will be noticed that at the back of the pulpit there is a half-filled arch. The rood-steps are at the back of this, and probably the entrance to the pulpit was originally through this archway. The pulpit at Chipping Sodbury Church is approached in this manner, although the steps in this instance are not those of the rood-loft, but especially made steps for the purpose. Here we seem to have an arrangement which combines the two. Fragments of the older church, found at the restoration, have been built into the wall of the vestry. At the east end of the south aisle there are the remains of a Chantry chapel. The piscina was found in the wall and restored to its present position. The dedication of this chapel is unknown, as is also the name of the owner of the tomb which is in it. Tradition says it is the burial place of one of the St. Maurs. There are traces of decorations on the walls above, which were brighter when they were first uncovered than they are now. There was then to be seen the figure of the Blessed Virgin with golden fleur-de-lys on a claret-coloured ground. The vacant niche probably held a statue of the Saint to whom the chapel was dedicated. Much of its tracery had been cut away, but this was restored at the renovation of the church. Stars and Catherine-wheels in gold, and with traces of colour, appear on the walls in this chapel. It is interesting to note that the tomb is built out of material that had been used before—the back of one of the

caps having a square fillet and large hollow moulding, which had been originally gilt all over. Immediately behind the arch and cornice of the tomb was a rougher arch, on one of the stones of which was part of a coloured representation of the martyrdom of St. John in the cauldron of boiling oil. In the wall close by was a piece of plaster, on which was painted the flowing hair and back of the head of a human figure, and the gilded ground was bright in spite of its age. This chapel must evidently have been beautifully coloured and decorated before its destruction. There is a hole through the centre of the boss which is in the midst of the roof of this chapel, and this may have been to allow a chain to pass through it and suspend something before the altar, such as a candelabra, etc.

In the north aisle there seems to have been a corresponding chapel, for on removing the plaster a small reredos and piscina were brought to light. A holy-water stoup that was found was replaced near the north door. The old font is still in excellent preservation. The pulpit stood originally on the south side, and the small niche near it is said to have contained an hour-glass. If so, of course this niche is post-Reformation work, for these instruments were used as a handy check to long Puritan sermons.

The church has six bells, the first three of which were recast by the well-known Somerset bell-maker, Thomas Bilbie, of Chew Stoke ; and they bear the names of William Tucker and Henry Batten, who were churchwardens in 1753. The fourth and fifth, also made by Bilbie, record that Thomas Noades and Benjamin Hawkins were churchwardens in 1753. The sixth bell was cast by Mears in London in 1817, and gives the names of Henry Batten-Poole and John Thomas as churchwardens.

There is a scratch-dial on the outside of the church on the south-east corner of the chancel, and it is of rather poor design. On the south-west corner of the south aisle there is what may be a style-hole, without any other marks, but it is very doubtful whether this was ever a dial.

The Members then left for Woolverton, where, again under the guidance of the Rev. H. W. Davy, the little church of St. Lawrence was visited. This church does not appear to have been visited by the Parent Society at any time. Collinson dismisses it in one line : "The church is a small structure of one pace, with a tower at the west end, in which are three bells"; and no other writer says anything about it. "Kelly's Directory" says that the church is dedicated to St. Lawrence,

that it is "small but ancient," and is in the Tudor-Gothic style. It has a tower with pinnacles and spire, and two bells. The church was thoroughly restored in 1889 at a cost of £600. The register dates from the year 1570. In 1875 the old Rectory House was destroyed and a new one built in its place. On the outside walls of the church there are no less than six scratch dials, but one of these is probably only a well-made "copy" of the one above it. Martock Church has five of these ancient dials, and these two churches respectively contain more than any other church in the County.

Mr. Davy was thanked on behalf of the members by Mr. Scott.

Bath was reached at seven o'clock.

Whitchurch, Queen Charlton and Keynsham.

THE concluding excursion of the season took place on Wednesday, September 15th. Although the weather was dull and unsettled, the excursion proved a very pleasant one. Motor charabancs left Queen Square at 2 p.m., arriving at Whitchurch at 2.45 p.m.

At the church the Members were received by the Vicar (the Rev. E. J. Franklin), who conducted them over the building and gave a short history of the church and parish.

Whitchurch stands upon the site of the former Saxon village of Filton. At the Conquest Filton, *alias* Whitchurch, was included as part of the fifty hides of lands belonging to the Abbey of Keynsham. The place is not mentioned in Domesday Book, except as part of "Cainesam." The ancient church of Filton, *alias* Whitchurch, is dedicated to St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, the capital of Lycia, who lived at the time of the Diocletian persecution in about the year 300. St. Nicholas was the patron Saint of many, among whom may be mentioned sailors, maidens, children, prisoners, merchants and travellers. In the life of St. Nicholas various legends are narrated which justify his claim as patron Saint of the above, but some of these are absolutely absurd.

The following story which explains his special guardianship over the interests of merchants may be of interest. St. Nicholas died in 342 and was first buried at Myra; but at that time the Turks were conquering Asia Minor and it was feared the bones of St. Nicholas might be outraged. Merchants of Bari resolved to attempt to carry away the precious bones of

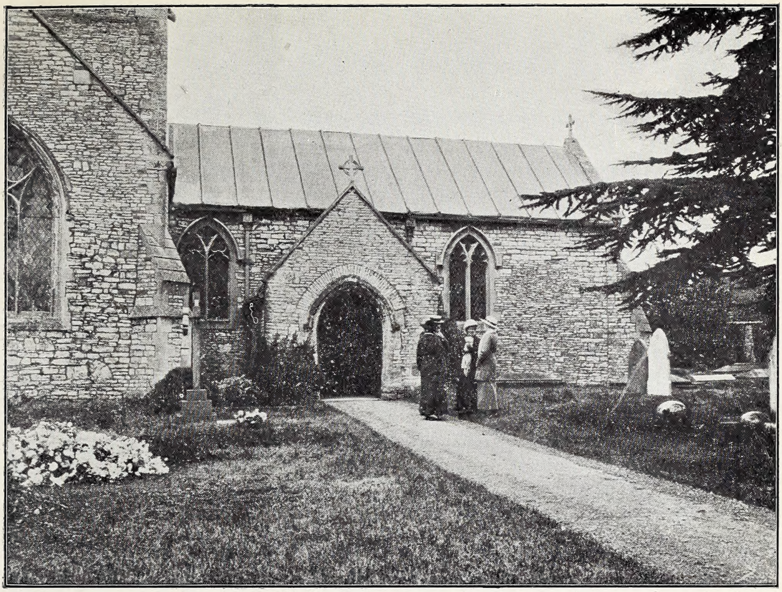


Photo Miss Blathwayt.

ST. NICHOLAS, WHITCHURCH.

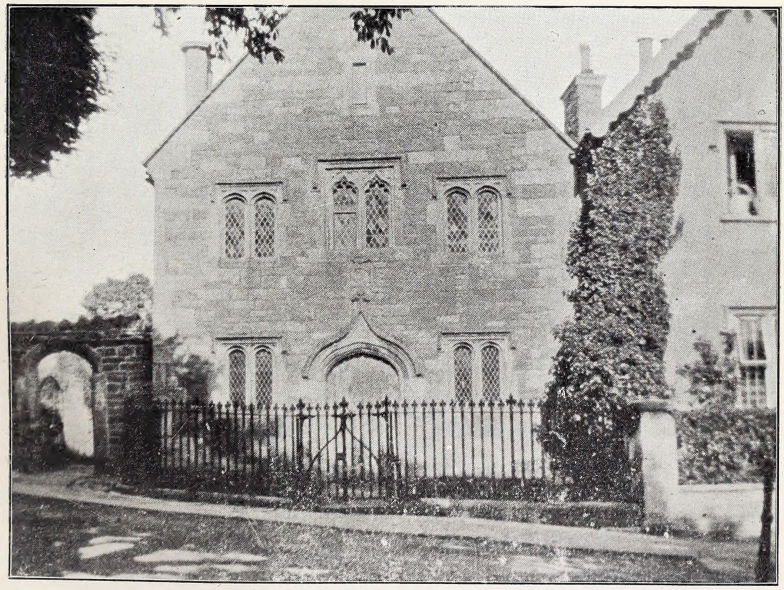


Photo Miss Rodman.

CHURCH HOUSE, CHEW MAGNA.

their beloved Saint to their own city, to prevent them falling into the hands of the Turks. They succeeded in their enterprise, and a magnificent church was built over the remains at Bari. From this event the Saint obtained the title of St. Nicholas of Bari. St. Nicholas is usually represented in art either as holding three golden balls in his hand or with them lying at his feet. Three golden balls were the arms of the Florentine family of Medici, the great merchants and money-lenders of Florence, who, probably to acknowledge their gratitude to the patron Saint of merchants, took his symbol. The well-known sign, the three golden balls of a pawnbroker, is considered to have probably originated in this way.

Although sufficient remains to indicate that Whitchurch Parish Church is of the Norman period, its actual date is unknown. Built in cruciform style it remained so until the south aisle was added. It consists of nave of three bays, south aisle, chancel under central tower, and sanctuary. There are traces of the various styles of architecture from the bold Norman work to the late Perpendicular, as well as many additions and insertions of modern date. The font, which is of Norman date, is in good preservation. It is square in shape, with rounded corners at the lower edges. A handsomely carved old oak screen divides the Smyth chapel from the south aisle. The south porch is a massive and ancient structure, and contains the pre-Reformation holy-water stoup.

The tower contains one bell, the others having been sold to Queen Charlton Church at some former time. The one now remaining is stated to be very valuable. The story goes that this bell for some reasons required to be re-cast, and for the purpose was placed in the hands of Bilbie, the well-known bell-founder of Chew Stoke. The bell was melted down, and while the metal was in a molten condition tradition says that a parishioner, an old lady, brought a large assortment of silver articles and cast them into the metal. Tankards, candlesticks, cups, and spoons, all went to add value to the material from which the new bell was to be cast. It is asserted that the old lady made two or three journeys to the melting pot, each time laden with silver, remarking as she threw the articles in that it would "save a deal of work by not having to keep them clean, and at all events after she was gone they would still remain in the parish."

In the vestry are several ancient books, including a volume of homilies, presumably of Erasmus, with the chain attached. The registers date from 1557. An entry in the year 1845 is

to the effect that the pew formerly occupied by the tenants of Sir John Smyth and Colonel Gore Langton be no longer used as such, but given up and solely adapted for a vestry room for the use of the clergyman and parish meetings. The church contains a list of 31 names of vicars who have served the church between the years 1600 and 1888, also a list of church and parish wardens from 1691. The church charities date back to gifts of Sir Hugh Smyth, who died 1627, and to Sir John Smyth.

Mr. Franklin gave the Members a number of details of the church and parish, and in conducting the Members over the church drew attention to its points of interest. He was cordially thanked for the trouble he had taken by Mr. Gerald Grey.

The Members afterwards went to Lyons Court, a remarkably fine old residence near the church. It was at one time an important ecclesiastical building, and was occupied either as a monastery or nunnery, and afterwards as the residence of the Lyons family. Its curious square decorated windows, its ancient doorway and fine old arch, its many loopholes, its quaint old-fashioned rooms, and its ivy-grown walls of immense thickness, retain for it the air of grandeur and glory associated with times which have long since departed. Lyons Court is now a farmhouse.

At Queen Charlton the Members were received by the Rev. D. F. Hatchard, M.A., who is Vicar also of Keynsham. Queen Charlton is a small ancient village of great interest. Remains of monastic buildings prove that it was selected by the Normans as a desirable spot for a religious establishment. Queen Charlton, like Whitchurch, formed at the Conquest part of the large Manor of Keynsham, and is, therefore, not mentioned in Doomsday as a separate manor. At the suppression of the monasteries, the Manor of Queen Charlton, among others, was granted to Queen Catherine Parr, sixth wife of Henry VIII., who survived him, and who afterwards married Sir Thomas Seymour, brother of the Lord Protector. From the circumstance that Charlton became the property of Catherine Parr it assumed the additional name of Queen and became known as Queen Charlton.

The ancient Parish Church is the most conspicuous and oldest building in Queen Charlton. When it was erected there are no records to show, and the only means of telling its approximate age is by its architecture. The present edifice is a picturesque building standing on slightly elevated ground.

Its venerable old Norman tower and its general surroundings give it a most pleasing and interesting appearance. The church was dedicated to St. Margaret, who was declared a Saint more than 100 years after her death for the great benefactions she had bestowed on the Church at large. She died in 1093. The church was originally cruciform, but only the north transept remains. The interior of the building is plain, but contains some excellent examples of late Norman work, from which it is concluded that the building dates back to about the 12th century. Under the tower at the crossing are four very fine arches, with attached round pillars, the capitals of which are carved with a typical Norman design. On the south side of the chancel are two beautiful old arches which formerly must have led into a chapel or a chantry, but are now blocked up. The arches are separated by an octagonal pillar, with elaborately carved capitals of very curious design, representing animals, human heads, and other quaint devices. The north side of the chancel is comparatively modern.

The Norman tower has some very good work in it. It is not so lofty as some, but, being central, great height is not required to give it an imposing and graceful character. It rises in three stages, and has round-headed windows in the two upper stages on all four faces, with hood moulding. The tower also contains a clock with faces on three sides. The summit of the tower is ornamented with a pierced parapet and pinnacles.

By kind permission of Mr. H. Stephen Fox the party were allowed to ramble through the picturesque grounds adjoining the Manor House, and were also given the opportunity of inspecting the house itself. It is an extremely ancient and interesting manor. If one is to believe all that is told respecting Royal visits paid there it must have been a noted house. Reliable information, however, is difficult to obtain. Collinson says that Queen Elizabeth passed through Queen Charlton in 1573, but whether she stayed there is not quite clear. Possibly she did, for she is reported to have granted a charter for a fair to be held there yearly on the 20th July. Whether greatly honoured by Royalty or not, the Manor House of Queen Charlton, sheltering amidst its sylvan surroundings, forms one of those attractive old homes for which our land is famous. Nearly opposite the Manor House is a remarkably fine old archway of late Norman date, decorated with zig-zag moulding, which at one time formed the entrance to the court house or convent. It is wonderfully preserved and elaborately carved in the style of the best Norman architecture.

The Members afterwards journeyed to Keynsham, where tea was served at the Old School. Mr. Hatchard, again acting as guide, first conducted the Members to a garden which was once part of the site of the Abbey of Keynsham. The once noble edifice has now almost entirely disappeared. Many fragments of rich carving were seen in different parts of the garden. The Members then visited the Parish Church, which is said to have been appropriated to the Abbey as early as 1292, and is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It is a spacious building in the Early English Decorated and Perpendicular styles of architecture. It consists of a chancel, large nave of eight bays, south porch, and western tower containing eight bells. The tower was erected in place of the original one, which was blown down during a terrific thunderstorm in 1632, when the nave and north aisle were destroyed by its fall. An old document, after describing the storm, says the "greatest and principallest part of the body of the church" was destroyed, whilst "the glasse windowes were for the most part utterly rent and torne." The chancel is the oldest portion of the church, and probably dates from about 1292. It contains a modern east window with stained glass representing the Crucifixion and Resurrection. The chancel also possesses a double piscina. Separating the chapel from the south aisle is a beautiful carved oak screen of Perpendicular work, which is one of the most interesting features of the church. Among the monuments, those to the Brydges family, ancestors to the Dukes of Buckingham and Chandos, of which there are several, are the oldest. On the north side of the chancel is an altar tomb, on which is a recumbent figure, in armour, in memory of Henry Bridges, Esq., who died April 14th, 1597. On the south side is a monument to the memory of Sir Thomas Bridges, K.B.

The history of Keynsham is an interestlng one, going back to a period when nearly the whole of that part of the country was a forest. In early Norman times the Manor was held by the King, a considerable portion being included in the Royal chase of Keynsham. The legend of St. Keyna, from which Keynsham is supposed to have derived its name, is a romantic one. St. Keyna, the beautiful daughter of Braghan, Prince of that part of Wales now known as Breconshire, gained permission of the King to establish her hermitage at Keynsham. She did this in order to escape the unwelcome attention of her many suitors. Her request was granted, but she was informed by the King that it was no fit place for her as it was infested by serpents. St. Keyna prayed earnestly that she might be delivered from this peril, and tradition hath

it that all the serpents were turned into stone and became ammonites. There must have been many serpents, for to this day ammonites are frequently found in the neighbourhood. A touch of myth sets off a history, and Keynsham possesses that touch in the St. Keyna tradition. Reliable facts concerning Keynsham in the twelfth century are available. The Manor was attached to the Honour of Gloucester, and held by the great Earls of that name until 1170. William, Earl of Gloucester, founded the Abbey of Black Canons at "Keynshame" in 1166, and the Abbey, which developed into a large and important establishment, surrendered to the King in 1539. After the dissolution Henry VIII. settled the Manor of Keynsham on Queen Catharine Parr, his sixth wife.

On the motion of the Rev. F. H. Mules, Mr. Hatchard was heartily thanked for all the information he had given. The Members greatly appreciated his interesting accounts, and although Mr. Hatchard had professed to know little he had given them very valuable information.—Mr. Hatchard acknowledged the appreciation shown.

At six o'clock the charabancs proceeded on their journey, and Bath was reached at 6.30.

This was the last of the season's excursions, in which many Members of the Bath and District Branch have been glad to take part. The Members are greatly indebted to Mr. Gerald Grey for the arrangements made. In a period of exceptional stress the excursions have proved of no little value in affording welcome mental relaxation, and all sincerely trust that next season it will be possible to arrange for another series, and that happier conditions will prevail.

NOTES.

Some of the Holy Wells of Somerset.

Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

THE first of the addresses (illustrated by lantern slides) for the year, arranged by the Committee of this Branch Society, was given by the Rev. Ethelbert Horne at the Literary and Scientific Institution on January 21st, the Rev. H. H. Winwood in the chair.

The Chairman, in briefly introducing the lecturer, referred to the extremely interesting address which Father Horne gave them last season upon "Scratch Dials." He felt confident that upon that occasion they would be favoured with an equally interesting address.

Father Horne said :

Perhaps you will let me say, Ladies and Gentlemen, by way of introduction, that the notes I am going to give you this afternoon—I should not like to dignify them with any higher title—are really only an afterthought. I had planned in my mind a paper on an entirely different subject, which would have formed a kind of sequel to the remarks that I made when we met in the old churchyard at Holcombe on a pleasant afternoon last summer. The Committee of our Society thought—and I quite agree with them—that the paper I was going to read would not be a congenial one at the present time, for several reasons, and they asked me to try something else. Of course this was a simple procedure on the part of the Committee, but it was not so simple for me, and I have had to put together some notes on a subject that at present I have really scarcely studied at all. The work that I have been doing this last five years, in examining the walls of our country churches for Scratch Dials, is nearly at an end, for I hope early this year to finish off the 30 or 40 churches which still remain to be visited, and so I wanted another archæological amusement for my spare hours. It struck me that to try to make a list of all the Holy Wells we have, or reputed Holy Wells, might not be without its interest for others besides myself. They have a history of their own,

they go back to remote times—for many are of pagan origin—and they are often closely associated with those who had a hand in Christianizing our part of the country. I may add to this that they are often objects of beauty in themselves, which the scratch dials rarely were, and so they promised to form a relief from that point of view, if from no other. So far, I have been able to visit but few wells myself, and the information I have gleaned about them is very scrappy, and hence I would much rather not have spoken about them at all until I really had something to tell you. You will not therefore, I hope, be disappointed when you find these notes are meagre and disjointed, and the pictures but few in number. And there is one other matter that I feel I must make perfectly clear at the outset. I have to mention Saints, and pilgrimages, and alleged miraculous cures, and things of a like nature. Now I am the very last person in the world to wish to introduce religious topics on an occasion like this, but I am sure you will agree that it is quite possible to approach subjects of this kind in what I may call a purely scientific manner. We are not bound to believe that anyone is a saint because he has that title, and we use the title merely because that is the way he is usually spoken of. Nor need we believe that a well is "holy" or has any supernatural powers because it is called a holy well, and persons went to it on pilgrimage. We merely relate what we find said about the place, or the well, or the saint, or the pilgrimage as matters of history, and I treat of them only from this point of view, and in no manner of way as things ecclesiastical. I feel sure you will credit me with trying to keep strictly within these limits which I have laid down for myself.

I may now turn more immediately to the subject before us this afternoon.

When the site for a Christian church was chosen, there was nearly always some factor which determined the choice. The reason which finally led to the particular site being selected was probably one or other of the following:—

(1) *The Site of a Pagan Temple.*—Many of the churches throughout our country are doubtless so situated. You will remember that St. Gregory the Great gave instructions to Augustine, in reply to his queries, that the pagan temples were not always to be destroyed, but, where possible, they were to be turned into Christian churches, so that the pagans might gradually be drawn from their errors, and not offended by acts of violence on the part of the missionaries against those places they had hitherto held as sacred. I am not going to

give a list of such churches that exist to-day, probably on heathen sites, as it is quite outside the purpose of this paper. It is well to bear in mind that it does not follow because you find a quantity of early material in the walls of a building that therefore it is on an old site. The use of old material, lying ready to hand, was as much valued in ancient times as it is to-day, and a building may be on quite a new site, although largely composed of ancient stones.

(2) *The Site of a Roman Villa.*—A great deal of evidence exists to show that a church was somewhat frequently built on the site or close to a Roman villa of importance. Quite a list of such churches could be made out. One may hazard a guess that the owners of the villa were Christians, that a room in their house was first used as a chapel and afterwards became a church.

(3) *Earthworks and Stones.*—The earthworks of earlier generations, and the great stone circles, or single stones, or table stones, were all objects of superstitious reverence by the pagans. It may well be that the Christian missioner took advantage of this, and taught the people at such places, and finally erected churches close to them. We have the church at Stanton Drew quite close to the stone circle, and at Whatley there is a large Sarsen stone just outside the church-yard wall. Throughout the country there are numerous examples of the propinquity of churches and earthworks and great stones.

(4) *Pagan Burial Grounds.*—Reverence for the dead, and for the places where they were laid, is a common instinct. There seems to be good evidence that tumuli and castle-mounds, which were frequently burial-places, are also favourite places for building churches on, or near. The wonderful little Norman church at Kilpeck is a good example of this kind of site, for it is built at the foot of the rising on which stand the ruins of the Castle.

(5) *Pagan Wells.*—One of the most favourite reasons for putting a church in a particular spot was undoubtedly the existence of a well which was held in reverence by the inhabitants. Mr. R. C. Hope, in his "Legendary Holy Wells of England," has collected a great number of our English Holy Wells. Making quite a rough estimate from his book, I should think there must be some hundreds of parish churches in England built close to, and sometimes over, these ancient wells. I should not like to lay it down as definite, but from what I have read and seen I am inclined to think that perhaps the greatest determining factor for building a church in any

particular spot was the presence of a well—that this has accounted for the existence of more churches than any other one cause.

Besides those wells which were held in esteem by the pagans, it is quite certain that numerous Holy Wells were of Christian origin. They were stated either to have been wells where some missionary baptized those he converted by his preaching, or wells that marked the site of a martyrdom. Of the latter, St. Alban's is an example ; and, near Hereford, at the west-end of the middle aisle of Marden Church, is a well in the floor, said to mark the spot where St. Ethelbert was put to death. There is a story, which I have not been able to verify, that at Doulting, the spring there marks the place where St. Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherborne, died, while on his visitation. Besides converted pagan wells, and those that have always been Christian, I expect there is a third class—those that were merely utilitarian. We must remember that there was a time when the local authority did not lay on water with pipes, as is done at the present day. Water had to be obtained in past ages either from draw wells, by the help of a windlass and bucket, or from natural springs. Wherever there was one of the latter, if the supply was plentiful, persons would tend to gather, and houses were built. This fact alone would make the vicinity of such a spring a good site for a church, quite apart from any cult—pagan or Christian—that the spring might have had.

Of all the reasons for building a church in any particular place that I have mentioned, I should expect that the presence of a water supply, in either of the three forms I have just referred to, was the most potent. Before we pass on to consider these Holy Wells in detail, it may be of interest to refer to the trouble they caused ecclesiastically, from a very early age.

The old pagan feast of *Fontinalia*, celebrated on October 14th in Rome and elsewhere, had for its chief ceremony the throwing of flowers in the springs or fountains in honour of the nymphs who presided over them. Horace, in one of his Odes (Ode xiii, 3rd book) speaks of the fountain of Blandusia as being brighter than glass, and worthy of offerings of wine and flowers. This pagan custom evidently lasted on into Christian times, and there are plenty of examples of its condemnation by ecclesiastical authority, although such condemnatlons were not always heeded, for customs rooted in a people are killed with difficulty. The Council of Tours in A.D. 567 specially interdicted this kind of idolatry. The

Penitential of King Egbert forbids adoration offering libations and sacrifices to fountains, and for any man to "vow or bring his offering to any well." He was also forbidden to keep his wake at any well, and was to be punished with a long fast on bread and water if he disobeyed.

The *Penitential* of St. Cummin, who died in 669, condems the same superstitions. *Well-waking* is said to have lasted through the Middle Ages, but I can give no authority for this. It consisted in going to the well on the eve of the Saint's feast to whom it was dedicated, drinking some of the water, and then sleeping on the ground near the well, and drinking the water again before leaving in the morning. The custom is said to have led to so much abuse that it was abolished as much as possible. The 16th Canon, issued in the reign of Edgar A.D. 963, enjoins the clergy to be diligent in teaching Christian doctrine and in abolishing superstition among the people, such as the worship of trees, stones, wells, etc.

In 1018 we find the same prohibitions, and St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1102 directs that "no one attribute reverence or sanctity to a dead body, or a fountain, without the Bishop's authority."

From what I have said, I think we may gather that there were pagan survivals of worship at wells or fountains for many ages after this country was supposed to have accepted Christianity. Traces of these pagan customs may still be found, for in Derbyshire and the North of England wells are still decorated with flowers on certain days, and the custom of throwing an offering into the water in the form of a pin, or a copper coin, is common everywhere. *Wishing-wells*, as they are called, may also be a pagan survival, for it is difficult to see any connection with Christianity and such a custom, and these, too, may be found in almost every county.

DESCRIPTION OF THE WELLS.

Father Horne gave the following description of the wells, excellent pictures of which were thrown on the screen :—

St. Alphege, Bath.

This well is situated on Lansdown. It is on the opposite side of the road to the site of the old cricket ground. A steep path, which appears to be cobble-stoned, leads from the road down towards the bottom of the field. The water falls into an old Roman coffin. This stone coffin was brought from Northstoke by a farmer some twenty or thirty years ago to

Photo Mr. Gerald J. Grey.

ST. ALPHEGE'S WELL, LANSDOWN.

make a drinking-place for his cattle. A quarter of a mile from the well, on the road to the Monument, is Chapel Farm. This was originally St. Laurence's Hospice for pilgrims on the road to Glastonbury. It is not uncommon to find a Holy Well by a frequented pilgrim track, and this is a good example.

St. Alphege, who may have been born near Bath, certainly began his monastic life at Derhurst Monastery, in Gloucestershire. He seems to have left Derhurst, and to have built himself a cell near Bath Abbey. After a time he was made Superior of the community, until St. Dunstan made him leave and accept episcopal consecration. He governed the See of Winchester for 22 years, and was then translated to Canterbury. He was martyred by the Danes, April 19, 1012. No other well in Hope's list is dedicated to this Saint.

St. Winefred's Well, Sion Hill, Bath.

This well is in the grounds attached to Winefred House. My friend Mr. Grey has found some difficulty in locating the well. In certain title deeds relating to the property on which Winefred House stands "a well called Winefred's Well" is described, and at the Quarter Sessions held at Bridgwater in 1805 permission was obtained from the Justices to close an old right-of-way across a field called the Barn Piece, and on the plan attached to the application the position of this well is shown, so that there is fairly good evidence for its name and existence. There seem to be several other St. Winefred's Wells in the country, Oxfordshire having two. The celebrated St. Winefred's at Holywell, in North Wales, may be worth a passing notice, because here we have a Holy Well "at work," so to speak, and it will give us a good idea of what many of our own wells were like when they were complete. The crypt under St. Winefred's Chapel, which is now used by the Church of England for Welsh services, is the property of the Mostyn family, and is much in the same state as it was in pre-Reformation times. This picture is from an old undated print. At the far end, out in the open air, is the bath—I believe the only one now used by pilgrims. This picture shows the actual spring, and the votive offerings stuck in the carving.

St. Mary's, Charlcombe, Bath.

Mr. Grey, who has helped so much with the Bath Holy Wells, tells me he has known of this one, under the name of St. Mary's Well, for a great number of years. It is close to the old Norman Church at Charlcombe, in the Rectory garden,

amid a clump of ferns. The inhabitants have a tradition that the water is good for the eyes, and some twenty years ago persons were known to come and take it away in bottles. It is also stated to be a "wishing well," and I believe the water is still taken from this source for baptisms. Mr. Grey gives an extract from a letter in which the writer states that a lady derived considerable benefit from this well, through applying the water to her eyes.

Only a small stream comes through a pipe, and falls into a natural basin. It is not improbable that other foundations might be found in the bank which is now so beautifully overgrown with ferns.

St. Catherine's Well, St. Catherine's, Bath.

The Norman Church of St. Catherine was re-built by John Cantlow, Prior of Bath, in 1499. Not far from it, in what are now the gardens of St. Catherine's Court, the well or spring is situated. In the lowest of the terrace walls, is a square opening, and the water flows from this down some mossy steps into a stone trough. Inside the opening in the wall is an ancient leaden cistern, and if the wall was built in Elizabethan times, as it is stated to have been, this well may be almost in its primitive condition as regards its source. It appears to be visited by a good many persons in the course of the year, and is always known as St. Catherine's Well.

Hope, in his list of English Holy Wells, gives one at Eskdal in Cumberland, and one at Newark, as dedicated to this Saint, but there are probably many more.

Again, I am indebted to Mr. Grey for this picture and the information.

Conkwell, Wilts.

This well is not in Somerset at all, but just over the border of the County, in Wilts. I have included it because it seems so well-known to persons living in Bath. Tunstall in his *Rambles about Bath* claims that this curious little group of cottages, which form the whole of Conkwell, exhibit, perhaps, "greater marks of antiquity than almost any other cluster of houses in the Kingdom." The well is close beside a very narrow road, which goes through a deep gully towards the Viaduct, and looks as if it was an ancient British trackway. The well forms the source for the drinking supply of this isolated group of cottages, and the clothes-washing place for the inhabitants. Pic-nicers go to Conkwell in summer time,

and go through the ceremony of crawling to the well on hands and knees, then letting the water gather in the left hand, and after forming a wish in their mind, they drink. These "wishing wells" are probably pagan survivals.

Then there is *Rosamund's* Well, in the Horseshoe Road, near Bathwick Cemetery, which might be a corruption of St. Osmund's Well.

St. Anne's Chapel and Well, Brislington.

This place is of some historic interest, as it was one of the great pilgrimage places in the West of England. If you leave St. Anne's Road Station and go along Newbridge Road, you will come to an opening in the iron railings on the right, which border St. Anne's Wood. A pathway from the opening leads to the bottom of the wood, crosses the Brislington stream and follows its left bank, as it makes its way to the Avon. The site of St. Anne's Chapel was on the other side of the brook, and is now completely underground. Mr. W. Pountney has been recently making excavations there, and discovered the east-end wall and parts of the north and south walls 8 feet below the surface; the rest of the walls which have stood upon the natural rock, had been mostly removed. Two large vaults, cut in the solid rock, with a stair-way down to them, were in the centre of the Chapel. On the adjoining burial ground the foundations of a number of cells or cellars were uncovered, and these probably formed places of rest for the number of pilgrims who visited the Well and Shrine of St. Anne.

The well itself, or the little that remains of it, is in the hedge on your right immediately you have crossed the first stile on the footpath. Our English King Henry VII. and his Queen Elizabeth of York both visited this famous well, and so important was it that there was a ferry, which still exists, to carry pilgrims from Bristol across the Avon. The well is 2 feet 8 inches in diameter, and when I saw it last week it had about three inches of water in it. Stones have been thrown into the basin in large quantities, and the masonry round the sides, particularly on the left, has been pulled out, and the whole place is crumbling into decay. Seeing that it is a place of historic interest it seems a pity that it cannot be repaired and railed round. When in its glory it must have had a well-house over it, such as we saw at St. Winefred's at Holywell, and probably the foundations could be discovered if they were sought for.

St. Julian, Wellow.

Coming S.W. from St. Anne's, we shall meet with Wellow. The Hungerford family once lived in the parish, at the fine old Manor House, which still in great part exists. To the north of the church, flowing out of the hillside facing south, is St. Julian's Well. The water falls into a basin, apparently formed of masonry, but so overgrown, and inaccessible by reason of the swamp that surrounds it, that it could not be examined. The Hungerfords seem to have possessed a family ghost, and it is said that whenever any calamity was about to befall them a "fair white lady" appeared beside St. Julian's Well. At times she seems to have been obliged to "walk" throughout the night, but her headquarters were at the well.

At Ludlow, in Shropshire, is a well dedicated to this Saint—the only other under this name. It is difficult to know which St. Julian this is. There are eight Saints, at least, of the name. It seems probable to me that the dedication is to St. Julian, first Bishop of Mans (end of third century). Several Norman churches built in the reign of Henry II. was dedicated to him, as the King had been baptized in the Church of St. Julian at Mans. The old church at Wellow was Norman, which was replaced in 1370 by the present one—more or less. Lord Hylton kindly told me a day or two ago of another Holy Well not far from this one, at Stony Littleton, but at present I do not know the name.

St. Dunstan, Stoke Lane.

I should not like to say that this is a Holy Well for certain, although it bears a Saint's name. First, it is not a "well" at all—it is not even a spring. It is the exit of an underground stream that rises on the Mendips, runs to Stoke St. Michael, where it turns a mill, and then suddenly plunges into a hill side. After running a little less than three-quarters of a mile underground, it comes out under a rock, not far from Stoke House. It appears to have been known always as St. Dunstan's Well, but I never heard of persons visiting it or taking the water away.

A little more than a hundred years ago this water worked a small paper mill and logwood factory, the ruins of which can still be seen.

St. Aldhelm, Doulting.

Here we have an undoubted Holy Well, and one that, judging from the buildings round it, must have been in great repute at one time.

Photo Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

ST. ANNE'S WELL, BRISLINGTON.

St. Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherbourne, died at Doulting in 709 when on his visitation. The well head is beautifully built and the walls at the sides, until time and frost had done their work, were of first-class workmanship. Scattered round the well are numerous pieces of carved and dressed stone, showing, I think, that this was a covered-in well in pre-Reformation times. The long trough through which the water runs to the exit suggests it was intended as a bath in which the pilgrim might lie down. We shall see this arrangement in another well.

In a field not far from Evercreech Junction, in Ditcheat parish, is a " Holy Well " without other name.

St. Mary's Well in the Crypt, Glastonbury.

Warner in his *History of the Abbey of Glaston*, describes this well at some length, and gives some curious reasons for thinking it a " Holy Well." He admits that there is no evidence of any kind in support of his theory, as a " well " within the Church of Glaston is not mentioned by any writer. It seems to me that this was nothing more than the ordinary water supply that was wanted in any church where a number of masses would be said on most days in the year. Water is required to add to the wine used at mass, and also for the washing of the priest's fingers, and for the ablution of the chalice. There was no tap in the sacristy, as there is to-day, and the obvious thing was to have a small dipping well somewhere handy, that the water supply for the church could be obtained from. This well is about 2 feet 2 inches in diameter, and about 4 feet 9 inches deep.

The other large spring at the foot of the Tor may have been regarded as a " Holy Well," but I can't find anything about it. I think I have heard a story that the redness of its water was caused by the Holy Grail that was hidden at the well, but I am not sure, and I cannot find there was ever any pilgrimage. I dare say you know of the extraordinary boom which that well got in 1750, by what is known as the Dream of Matthew Chancellor. On Sunday, May 5th, 1751, ten thousand people are reported to have been in Glastonbury to get this water.

Wembdon-Hill, St. John the Baptist, Bridgwater.

In the year 1464 it was reported to the Bishop of the Diocese that within the bounds of the parish church at Wembdon was a well, commonly called St. John's Well, to which an immense concourse of people had resorted within a few days past, and not before resorted . . . . and sick

persons by the use of the waters were restored to health. The Bishop therefore issued a mandate to Robert Hurst, Canon of Wells, and to Thomas Overay, LL.B., to make enquiries about this spring and report the Christian and surnames of those who said they had been cured, their place of abode, nature of their disease, how long they had been ill, and how they found themselves cured. We do not know the result of the enquiry. The water is still taken away from this well, persons coming a great distance for it.

Carhampton, Kitswell—St. Christopher's. *Cutcombe*, Luckwellbridge—St. Luke's Well. *Yatton*. About a quarter of a mile east from the village are two springs situated close together, one named Bishop's Well, and the other Holwell.

St. Decuman, Williton.

This Saint was a Welshman, and said to be born of a noble family. Being desirous of a solitary life, he left his home and crossed the Severn on a hurdle of reeds, landing on the Somerset coast. He found a spot near Dunster that satisfied his longings and here he seems to have lived as a hermit. The place and church still bear his name, and to the west of the church is a well which is locally known as his. St. Decuman is said to have been martyred on August 27th, about the year 706, being put to death by a murderer in hatred of his religion.

Holy Well, Shapwick.

About three-quarters of a mile N.E. of the present Parish Church, this building is situated by the roadside. It is about 15 feet square, with a fire-place, and without a window. Inside, on the right as you enter, is a tank in the ground about 8 feet in width and nearly the length of the building, and two feet in depth. At the present time it is dry. The Vicar of Shapwick (the Rev. C. E. Seamer) writes to me that the water which was said to contain certain medicinal properties, has been lost, owing to the draining of the ground in the neighbourhood. He thinks this building must have been put up some time last century. He adds that the church originally stood close to the well, and that in the 13th century the Glaston monks obtained permission to build it in its present position, instead of rebuilding the old one. It is worth noticing that St. Indactus and his companions are said to have been martyred at Shapwick some time between 683 and 725, while on their way to Rome. Their memory was certainly kept at Glastonbury.

There is a curious chain of Holy Wells along the Polden Hills. First we have the one we are now discussing—Shapwick. The village to the east of this is Ashcolt, and here is Pedwell, or St. Peter's Well. The next village but one—still on the same road—to the west, is Edington, and here is a "Holy Well" without any other name. *Collinson* (vol. iii, 433) says, "a little below the church there is a perpetual spring, which contains sulphur and steel, and stains silver yellow in two hours. Against the change of weather it smells like the foul barrel of a gun. It is very cold, leaves a white crust on the bodies it passes over, and has been found efficacious in scorbutick cases." North of the next village, Chilton Polden, is another "Holy Well," but so far I have found out nothing about it.

These four wells are in a line on the chief road that would have been taken by pilgrims from Bridgwater, and its port, Glastonbury.

St. Agnes, Cothelstone.

We come south from Bridgwater to the Taunton district. Cothelstone, among the Quantock Hills, is most beautifully situated. The church is dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, and in a field to the N.E. is this most interesting well of St. Agnes. The well-house is about 6 feet square, and rises to a point, entirely overgrown with shrubs or ferns. The entrance faces west. It is an archway of cut stone, 4 feet in height by 2 in width. The water, which is very clear and shallow, rises in the centre and runs out under the doorstep through an underground channel for some distance, when it empties into and forms a large pond. There are two St. Agnes' Wells in Cornwall, one at St. Agnes, the other at Chapel Court, and no others are given by Hope dedicated to this Saint. It may be only a coincidence, but the well at Cothelstone is one of the same design as so many of those in Cornwall. Here is *St. Breward's Well*, near Camelford, and it is a type of half-a-dozen others. The magnificent old Manor House, the seat of the Stawel family, who held it from the Conquest, is close at hand—the well is in a field at the side of it. Several of the Stawels married wives who came from South Devon families. One of them, Edward Stawel, married Agnes, daughter of John Cheyney of Pinhoe, in Devon, in the reign of Henry VII., and this may well be about the date of the building. I do not press this point, but wells dedicated to foreign Saints are rather the exception—the majority have the names of our own countrymen—and it is interesting to see if one can find the influence that brought about a dedication to a non-British

Saint. That a little Roman maiden of 13, who was put to death on this day (January 21) in 603, should have a well dedicated to her memory among the Quantock Hills of Somerset seems to need some explanation.

While in this part of the county we may note near Taunton, St. Rumbold's Well, called Rumwell; a farm near Trulle called Herswell, which is St. Ursula's Well; at Ashill, Skipperham Well, a corruption of St. Cyprian's Well; and at Rockwell Green, in the parish of Wellington, is a "Holy Well," which gives its name to a public house and a hamlet.

St. Barbara, Cucklington.

This well is by the road side, nor far from the church which is dedicated to St. Lawrence. The Rev. F. W. Weaver has written an interesting paper on this well and St. Barbara, in the *Proceedings* of the Somersetshire Archæological Society for 1893. The local name is *Babwell.* In the church the south transept may have been the Saint's chapel, for in the window is a painting of St. Barbara, holding her tower with its three windows—the symbol of the Trinity, for the maintaining of which dogma she was martyred—while overhead is a three-leaved shamrock, which doubtless alludes to the same.

Patwell, Ladywell, Prior Gilbert's Well, Bruton.

1. Patwell, at the north end of the bridge, and just outside the churchyard, is St. Patrick's Well. St. Patrick and Glastonbury is a question I do not care to go into, but Glaston influence may easily account for such a well at Bruton.

2. Mr. Weaver kindly showed me the site—for to-day it is nothing more—of Ladywell. It is inside the gate, and the farmer has recently filled up the basin and covered the spring. Nothing now remains except the overflow, which has been carried through the hedge in a very commonplace earthen drain pipe.

3. On Coombe Hill, in Bruton, is a well in the wall on the left-hand side as you are leaving the town. The ribs of the groining meet in a boss, which has the letters W.G. carved upon it. Wm. Gilbert was Prior of Bruton in 1498. This is probably not a "Holy Well," but a water supply for the town provided by the monks of Bruton.

St. Andrew, Wells.

This well is in the garden belonging to the Principal of the Theological College, by whose kindness I was able to take this photograph. It is at the S.E. corner of the Lady

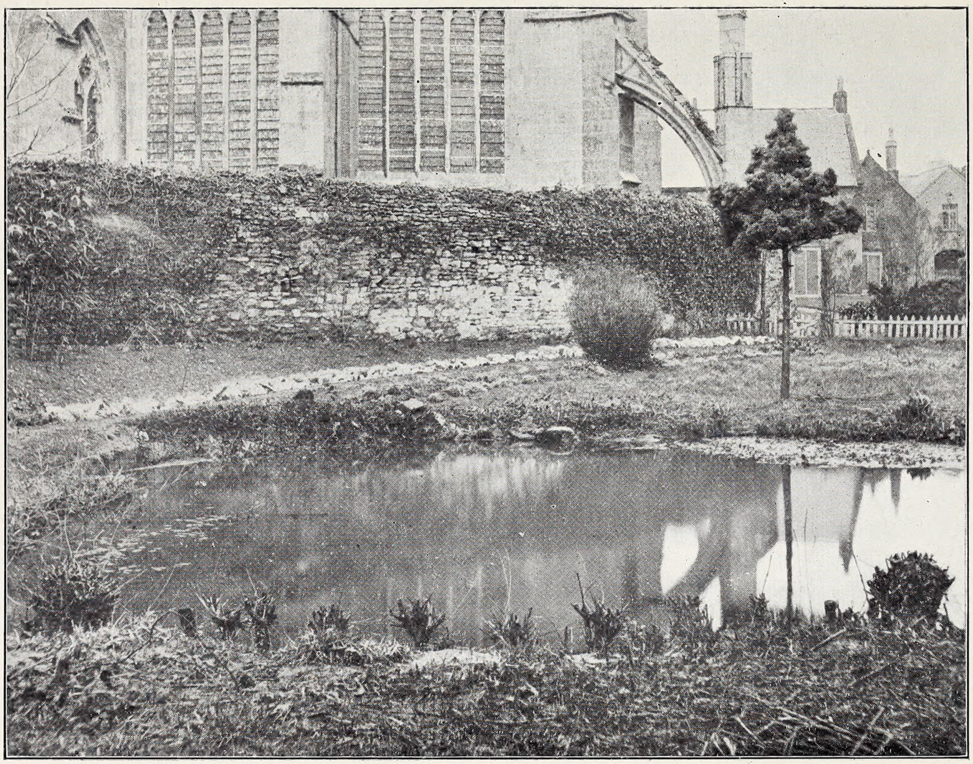


Photo Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

ST. ANDREW'S WELL.

WELLS.

Chapel, at no very great distance away. The water rises in a round pond, towards the left-hand side as one stands on the path, and it can be seen lifting large clouds of sand as it rises. Sometimes this spring seems nearer the surface than at others; probably the volume of water when greater forces the sand eddies nearer the top of the pond than when the supply is less. It is probably on account of this varying appearance of the spring that the well used to be known as the "Bottomless Well." The overflow finds its way under the footpath into an open channel, which runs directly up to the boundary wall of the garden. Immediately over the spot where the water passes under the wall is a niche, which probably once held a statue of St. Andrew. The stone channel is of some interest, as it suggests a bath where the pilgrim might get in for curative purposes. It is not unlike the channel at St. Aldhelm's Well, only it is narrower. The water finally goes to the cross in the town, and runs through the streets. Bishop Beckington granted the inhabitants a continuous supply from this well and the citizens in return bound themselves to make a yearly pilgrimage to his tomb, and pray for the repose of his soul.

Conclusion.

The lecturer, in conclusion, said there was a great deal more that ought to be done in regard to similar wells, and if anybody knew of the existence of a Holy Well in any part of Somerset he should take it as a very great kindness if they would let him know.

The Chairman voiced the thanks of those present to Father Horne for his exhaustive and interesting address. It showed, he said, an immense amount of research in ecclesiastical history, and they must also realise that the lecturer had spent a considerable amount of time in visiting the various wells and taking the many beautiful photographs he had shown them. He was sure that they had highly appreciated what he had done. They also considered the photographs which Mr. Gerald Gray had taken were admirable.

Turf Monuments of England.

Mr. M. H. Scott.

The second address (illustrated by lantern slides) for the year was given by Mr. M. H. Scott at the Literary Institution on February 11th, Colonel Kirkwood in the chair.

No one who has travelled in the neighbourhood of Bath can have failed to notice one at least of the figures of a horse cut in the turf so as to show the chalk beneath. I propose to tell you a little about these and other figures, some of which are, I fancy, not generally known.

The Turf Monuments of Great Britain consist of horses, giants and crosses, and one stag. All of these, except the stag and one horse at Aberdeen, are in England, and most of them are in the West of England. The figures of horses are the most numerous, but only two of these seem to have any pretension to antiquity. The giants are, undoubtedly, very old.

The horse as an emblem or ensign is found at a very early period of history. The Thracians used it on their coins some four centuries before the Christian era, and it was used in a similar manner at Carthage, Corinth, and by many other cities. Herodotus and Tacitus tell us that the horse was considered sacred by the ancients, or at least that there were sacred horses; the horse appears prominently in the great Hindu epics, and is conspicuous in the older mythologies. And, to come down to later times, the Saxons, who derived their mythology from the Scandinavians, who again borrowed their ideas from the Aryans, took auguries from the horse, and made it their emblem; their chiefs Hengist and Horsa adopted it as a name, and from them the Dukes of Saxony bore the horse on their arms, and still display it.

White horses were always largely in demand. Herodotus says that wild white horses grazed on the banks of the Caspian. The Sicilians sent a tribute of some 360 white horses annually to Persia, where many were used for sacrificial purposes, both singly and with bulls. Arrian mentions that one white horse at least was sacrificed to Cyrus every month at his tomb at Pasargadea. The Veneti, the Scandinavians, and the Sicilian Greeks also sacrificed white horses, that colour being believed to afford additional gratification to their gods.

The esteem in which horses, especially war-horses, were held is evident from the prominence accorded to them when coins began to come into general use.

The earliest representation of a White Horse as a Turf Monument is that at Uffington in Berkshire, which, when clean, may be seen from the railway shortly before Reading is reached, on the way to London.

It is difficult from its position to obtain a photograph of this horse, and some imagination is necessary to make anything at all out of the figure. It is, as you see, not very like a horse, but it seems that it is a copy of the horse as it appeared on the banners of the period from which it is believed to date, and as Mr. Thoms (Archæologia, vol. xxi., p. 289) thinks, in the figures preserved in the sacred Ash-groves of the Pagan Saxons.

The earliest mention of this horse appears in a cartulary of the Abbey of Abingdon (temp. Henry II., or thereabouts). It is mentioned as a land-mark, even then (1072-84) ancient, "*locum qui vulgo mons albi equi nuncupatur*," being one of the boundaries of a manor belonging to one of the monks.

Now it was only about 200 years before this time, viz., in 871, that a very famous victory had been gained by King Alfred over the Danes close to this very spot, as to the identification of which I shall speak presently. And it was in memory of this victory, according to tradition, that Alfred caused his men, the day after the battle, to cut out the White Horse, the Standard of Hengist, on the hill just under Uffington Castle.

The tradition seems not unworthy of credit. The idea of inscribing records on the actual face of Nature was not a new one; Semiramis and Hannibal, for instance, carved records upon rock. But the Uffington horse has some curious features, one of which may be touched upon here. It will be noticed that the head resembles a beak. Nor is this the accident of bad drawing, for on some coins of Boduo, wife of Prassitagus, King of the Iceni, better known to us as Boadicea, the name given to her by the Romans, the same feature may be observed; it seems exactly to fulfil the description of the horses of Ceridwen, the Druidical Ceres, of which the Welsh poet Taliesin speaks as "hen-headed steeds." Taliesin alludes to Ceridwen herself as the "high crested hen," and Mr. Davies in his "Druidical Mythology" considers that the horse depicted on Boadicea's coin was intended to represent Ceridwen herself. She is said by some of the bards to have assumed the form of a white mare.

One of these coins represents the horse with an egg in its mouth, and beneath the horse is the wheel of the sun. These horses, like the Uffington horse, face to sinister, that is, the head is to the right of the spectator.

As allusion has been made to Boadicea, it may not be altogether irrelevant to say a word or two here about her, for she, like King Alfred, was a true patriot. She was the wife of Prassitagus, King of the Iceni, a warlike race which occupied that part of England now called Norfolk and Suffolk. They had accepted the rule of Rome, but about 50 A.D. they revolted against the harsh rule of the proprætor Ostorius. The Romans took a terrible revenge, for when Prassitagus died ten years later they despoiled Boadicea of all her great wealth, flogged her, ill-treated her daughters and made slaves of the whole family. But the Iceni rose, and aided by the Trinobantes of Essex and Middlesex, who were groaning under their tyrannical governor at Camelodunum, now Colchester, swept the country, destroying Colchester, London and St. Albans, and killed every Roman they came across, some twenty thousand souls.

But the Romans mustered a large force, and, notwithstanding the personal bravery of Boadicea and her daughters, won the day by strategy and discipline. It is said that eighty thousand bodies were left on the field of battle, and Boadicea in despair poisoned herself (62 A.D.). Boadicea means victory, being the Latinised form of the Welsh Buddig.

An excuse for this digression may be found in the fact that the spirited group of Boadicea in her chariot, by the elder Thornicroft, not long since set up on the Thames Embankment, was cast in bronze by Messrs. Singer of Frome.

There are numerous burial places near the White Horse at Uffington. One the largest of these is called locally the "Dragon's Hill," and of course associated with St. George. The name no doubt was formerly "Pendragon's Hill"; the title "Pendragon," meaning "The Chief of Kings," was common to those kings of the ancient Britons who were chosen leaders in a time of national distress. We know of three prominent instances, Cassibelan or Cassivelaunus, Uther, and Arthur Pendragon, though it is thought by some that "Arthur," *i.e.* Ard-Righ—the High King, and Pendragon are synonyms.

Now it is recorded that Cedric, founder of the West Saxon Kingdom, slew Natanleod—whose name Naud-an-ludh means "the Peoples' Champion," and is thus synonymous with Pendragon—and 5,000 men in these parts. And he may well have been buried hereabouts.

In 520, according to Gildas and Bede, King Arthur gained his twelfth victory at Mons Badonicus, which may well be Baydon Hill near Uffington ; in 581 the Britons won another battle at Wanborough, and in 871 the battle of Ashdown was fought by Alfred against the Danes.

This year (871) is a year for Englishmen to be proud of, and especially Berkshire men, for on them fell the brunt of that fiery trial, and their gallant stand probably saved England a hundred years of Paganism. For had they given way at Ashdown, and had the reinforcements from over the sea come to a conquering, instead of to a beaten army in the summer, there was nothing to stop the Danes between Reading and Exeter.

Where Ashdown was is disputed by antiquarians. This much appears to be certain. The Danes marched up the Thames valley and seized the Royal town of Reading. At Englefield, a few miles further on, they were checked by the men of Essex under Æthelwulf, and three days later Alfred and Æthelred arrived and attacked the Danes at Reading. The Saxons after a hard fight were defeated, but gaining reinforcements as they retired, turned to bay at Ashdown and routed the Danes with great loss, and a fortnight after this Alfred fought them again at Basing. As these three battles were fought within three weeks, it is evident that the battle of Ashdown must have taken place somewhere on the range of chalk hills about Uffington.

Various sites have been suggested for Ashdown, the battlefield called Æscendune by the chroniclers, but none of them satisfy conditions as to time and situation or military probability except the Ashdown, the down which surrounds White Horse Hill. According to Wise the Danes held Uffington Castle, where, Camden says, there were earthworks and a deep ditch, Æthelred was in "Hardwell Camp," and Alfred in "King Alfred's Camp." A mile and a half to the eastward are the Seven Barrows, and several irregular mounds full of bones. This site is the proper distance from Reading, the name is that used by the chroniclers, it is the spot on which Æthelred would have fought to defend the Royal burgh of Wantage, and it is here that the White Horse is displayed.

Further details may be found in "The Scouring of the White Horse," by Thomas Hughes.

Besides the White Horse, there are near Uffington two remarkable monuments, "Wayland Smith's Cave," and a collection of stones near the road to Ashbury.

These last are Sarsen stones, all, except perhaps some of the smallest, overthrown. How they were originally arranged cannot now be told—they are spread over an area of about 1,600 feet north and south, by 800 feet east and west, the largest stones being about 10 feet in length and from 6 to 9 feet in width, the majority being much smaller. The gap in the centre was made to clear the view when Ashdown House was built, and it is probable that the stones were used in building the house. Dr. Fergusson considers it "almost incontestable that this monument is a memorial of the battle fought here between the Saxons and the Danes in 871 . . . . and that the victorious army, possibly with the assistance of the peasantry, collected the Sarsens in the neighbourhood and arranged them as Alfred and his army stood when he first received the shock of the Pagans." Dr. Fergusson similarly takes the interments at Avebury to have been those of the warriors who fell in Arthur's last and greatest battle of Badon Hill in 520, which he places at Waden Hill, between Avebury and Silbury. ("Rude Stone Monuments," by James Fergusson, 1872.)

About a mile from Dragon Hill, in a copse, are three squarish stones, 4 or 5 feet in diameter, standing upright, and supporting another much larger stone. This structure is known as "Wayland Smith's Cave," and is described by Sir Walter Scott in "Kenilworth." The legend is that anyone whose horse has cast a shoe will find it re-shod by an invisible smith if the steed be left on the spot at night, with a piece of money to reward the workman. (Bath Field Club "Proceedings," 1893.)

This dolmen was no doubt the burial place of some chief, probably a Dane. "The place," says Wise, "is distinguished by a parcel of stones set on edge, and enclosing a piece of ground raised a few feet above the common level, which as everyone knows was the custom of the Danes and some other northern nations. And Wormius observes that if any Danish chief was slain in a foreign country, they took care to bury him as pompously as if he had died in his own."

In the opinion of many antiquaries this dolmen is of much earlier date than the battle of Æscendune, and though it is possible that King Baegsek, who was killed in that fight, may have been buried here—there is no evidence either way—the monument was not built for him, though Camden and his Editor, Gough, seem to think it was. That it is ancient is undoubted, for it is referred to in a Saxon Charter as a landmark. (T. Hughes, "Scouring of the White Horse.")

Wayland is the Icelandic Vaulundr, the old English Weland, the old French Galans. Louis IV. girded Raoul de Cambrai with a sword forged in a dark cave by Galans, who also had made "Joyeuse," the sword "*cele tint Karlemaine longuement en certe.*" He was the mediæval Hephaistos or Vulcan; like them he worked underground and was lame. Like Dædalus he invented a flying machine.

[See "Wayland Smith: a Dissertation on a Tradition of the Middle Ages," by G. B. Depping and Francis Michel, with additions by S. W. Singer, and the amplified legend by Oehlenschlager. Pickering, 1847.]

At Kingston Lisle, in a hollow of the downs, beside an old oak tree, and not far from White Horse Hill, Uffington, is the famous Blowing Stone—a mass of red sandstone, about 3 feet in height, pierced with holes on each side, through any of which, if a person blows, a dull moaning sound is produced, audible at a distance of 5 or 6 miles. This rude trumpet of stone was, it is said, used by the ancient Celtic tribes to call their scattered bands together when danger threatened them. (Ditchfield's "Guide to Berkshire.")

Mr. Vincent ("Highways and Byeways of Berkshire") says that the sound produced by the stone is feeble. But possibly a much louder note might be obtained by proper blowing. The stone is covered with a padlocked lid, but opened for a small fee. The stone is referred to in a Berkshire ballad:—

The Bleawin Stwun in days gone by
  Wur King Alferd's bugle harn;
And the tharnin tree you med plainly see,
  As is called King Alferd's Tharn."

But of course this is not the thorn tree, "*unica spinosa arbor,*" of which Asser speaks; even he says "there was a single thorn tree, of stunted growth, but we have ourselves never seen it." The little chapel, called "Thorn Chapel," is said to be on the site of the tree under which Alfred heard mass on the morning of the battle of Æscendune.

The next Horse, after that at Uffington, which challenges attention is that on Bratton Hill, near Westbury, which is easily visible from the railway, and even, on a clear day, from Lansdown. This Horse also seems to refer to King Alfred, who in 878 gained a great victory over the Danes at Ethandune. Where Ethandune was antiquaries do not agree, but there is considerable reason for identifying it with Edington, near Westbury, Wilts, for there is a tradition of a great battle having been fought there; this is the most important of the

possible Ethandunes, and moreover, if this be not the site of the battle, no reason for the existence of the White Horse is apparent.

That the Westbury White Horse was very ancient cannot be doubted, though no old references to it can be found. But the Horse as we now see it is not the original figure. We have a drawing of it, made in 1772 by Gough, the Editor of Camden's "Britannia." It was then 100 feet in length. It faced, if this drawing is correct, to sinister, like the Horse at Uffington.

A remarkable point about this figure is the crescent-shaped tip given to the tail. In a coin of Cunobeline (see Holland's "Camden," p. 89, fig. v.) we find a crescent with the horse. Now the crescent is a symbol of Ceridwen. Taliesin speaks of the "Strong Horse of the Crescent," referring as is believed to the offspring of Ceridwen as a White Mare, and Neivion or Neptune.

In 1778, one Gee, Steward of Lord Abingdon, thought fit to "new-model" the Horse, and entirely changed its character. He re-cut the Horse, making it face to dexter instead of to sinister, and considerably enlarged it. It was repaired and re-cut in 1853, and is now 175 feet in length.

There is some doubt as to the direction in which the original Horse faced, some supposing that the facing to sinister was a mistake of Gough's engraver, and that Mr. Gee would not have been likely to "turn the figure round." But against this is the fact that Mr. Gee undoubtedly did alter both the size and character of the Horse, and that almost all the ancient British coins show the Horse facing to sinister.

About 2½ miles east of Calne, Wilts, is a White Horse, which does not seem to have any claim to antiquity, though it does lie close to the reputed Danish camp of Oldborough, and not far from the scene of the great battle between Egbert, King of the West Saxons, and Ceolwulph, King of the Mercians, in A D. 821. But there is no trace or tradition of any earlier Horse, nor is it mentioned as is the Uffington Horse in any records. Though it is possible that the historical spirit of the locality may have suggested the placing of the Horse where it is.

It was cut in 1780, only two years after the re-modelling of the Westbury Horse, which probably suggested it, by one Dr. Allsop, of Calne, who designed it with great care in such a position as to be seen to the greatest advantage from that part of the town known as the "Quarry."

TURF MONUMENT. WHITE HORSE, WESTBURY,

It is said that the doctor marked out the figure with rods bearing small flags, and then from a neighbouring hill shouted directions to his workmen for moving the stakes till he was finally satisfied with the result. The turf was then pared off, and the figure filled with chalk from the hill above. The inner circle of the eye was filled with glass bottles, which have now disappeared. The refilling has been several times done, by lowering the chalk from above. In 1876 the work occupied three men for a fortnight, and one of the men was nearly killed by a load of chalk breaking loose in its descent.

The next figure is on the slope of the hill, to the right of the high road entering Marlborough from the west. The Horse is 62 feet in length, and 47 feet in height, and was cut in 1804 by the pupils of one Mr. Gresley, who kept a school in Marlborough at that time, from the design of Mr. Canning of Ogbourne St. George. During Mr. Gresley's life-time the scouring of the Horse, *i.e.* placing fresh chalk, was one of the most honoured traditions of the school; but on Mr. Gresley's death it would seem that the school ceased to exist, and as it was nobody's business to look after the Horse it became overgrown and almost obliterated. In 1873, Captain Reed of Marlborough, who is said to have been one of the boys originally engaged in making the Horse (he must have been a very small boy at the time) had it put in order, and the figure is now easily visible again. It can be seen from the Bath Road, but as it is on a very gentle slope does not look nearly so well proportioned as it really is. In this case also it is probable that the proximity of the Uffington Horse may have had some influence, or Mr. Gresley may have thought that the Horse might help his scholars to remember their history; otherwise one would expect to find rather a white bull to be engraved, for this is suggested by the Corporation Arms, which are reminiscent of the two grey-hounds, two white capons, and a white bull, which in the good old times, Camden says, every freeman had on admission to give the Mayor; a custom which no doubt tended to keep the Corporation select.

Eight years after the cutting of the Marlborough Horse it occurred to the tenant of the Manor Farm, Alton Barnes, that the Vale of Pewsey possessed as good claims to a White Horse as Calne or Marlborough. So he chose the southern slope of the hill known as "Old Adam," and set to work to make a horse, employing a journeyman painter, named Thorne, then working in the neighbourhood, to carry out his wishes. Thorne undertook the matter for £20, and was apparently paid in advance, but after making a sketch and setting men

to work he disappeared. Whether the men who did the work got any reward is not known, but probably they did, as the figure was completed. The Horse resembles that at Cherhill, but is somewhat larger, being 180 feet in height, and 167 feet in length. It is conspicuous from the railway between Woodborough and Pewsey, and may be seen from Old Sarum, a distance of about 20 miles. It is kept in fair repair, the cost of scouring when required being defrayed by subscription.

Several White Horses, none of them having any claim to antiquity, have been from time to time cut in the slopes of the Wiltshire hills, but nearly all of them have vanished, the makers apparently not having cared to keep them in repair.

One of those still remaining is that at Broad Hinton. This is on the downs east of Wootton Bassett, on the right hand side of the road leading from Wootton Bassett to Marlborough, and just within the boundary of the parish of Broad Hinton, a little town of some note, owing to the residence there of Judge Glanville, the Tavistock worthy, who burned his house to prevent the Roundheads from occupying it as a garrison.

This Horse was cut in 1838, to commemorate the Coronation of Queen Victoria, by two parishioners, Henry Eatwell, afterwards parish clerk, and Robert Witt, who subsequently owned the "Crown" Inn at Broad Hinton. The Horse occupies a square, being 90 feet in length, and the same in height. From its position, as seen from the Devizes Road, it resembles the Marlborough Horse, but has some likeness, chiefly in the tail, to the horses at Alton and Cherhill.

At Worlebury Hill, near Stockbridge, Hants, is a White Horse. There does not appear to be any history forthcoming, but as there is an early British encampment at Danebury Hill, and the neighbouring village is called Horsebridge, the Horse should have some history; so far, however, enquiries have proved fruitless. (See Worth's "Hants," p. 73.)

Another Horse may be seen at Broad Town, also near Wootton Bassett; it was cut out so lately as 1864 by Mr. Simmonds, the then occupier of Littleton Farm. Broad Town lies under the range of high land, which, beginning from Compton Bassett, stretches away into Berkshire, and forms the southern boundary of the Vale of White Horse. The Horse is 86 feet in length by 61 feet in height. Mr. Simmonds appears to have stated that he intended to enlarge it by degrees, but he gave up the farm many years ago and nothing

further was done. The figure will probably vanish as so many others have done. Nothing appears to be known of the reason for cutting this Horse.

Two other Horses are known to have existed in recent times ; one of these was the work of the shoemakers of Devizes, and was cut by them upon Roundway Hill in 1848. This was known as the " Snob's Horse," the word " snob " being a provincial term for a shoemaker's journeyman. Why the shoemakers should have taken it into their heads to carve a White Horse does not appear. But the figure is no longer visible.

Another small Horse formerly existed on the " Slopes," near Pewsey, but no one seems to remember much about it, or who made it, and there seem to be no traces of it left.

Near the village of Preston, a short way from Weymouth, close to some barrows and the earthwork of Chalbury, is the Sutton White Horse, a portrait of George III. on horseback, cut out about the beginning of the 19th century by a soldier whose regiment was quartered near, to commemorate the stay of the King at Weymouth. It is fairly well proportioned, and seems to be kept in good order. It is best seen from the sea, but it is of no particular interest, and stands in quite a different category to the White Horses of Wiltshire and Berks.

Not far from this Horse are the lofty hills of Marm Tout, named after the Egyptian Deity whom the Celts worshipped as Theut Ait, the god of the Dead, to whom they consecrated all hills which were shaped like sepulchral barrows.

But this fact, even if he knew it, is not likely to have influenced the soldier who carved his Majesty's portrait on the hill-side near Weymouth.

At Dartmoor, in Devon, is a place known as "White Horse Hill," where the granite has been bared of turf, always very thin in that locality, but whether the resemblance to a horse has been intentionally made or is merely the accidental result of the weather, it is impossible to say. There is no tradition, and it requires some imagination to make out the figure of a horse at all.

On Roulston Hill, near Northwaite, in Yorkshire, is a White Horse measuring about 30 feet by 40 feet, and in very good proportion. This was, it is said, cut by a journeyman mason who had been working in the neighbourhood, as a memento of his stay. The date of this seems not to be known.

On the Hambledon Hills, near Thirsk, also in Yorkshire, is a White Horse, said to have been cut by a man of the name of Taylor, about 1857. He was a native of the neighbouring town of Kilburn, who had settled in a distant town, and cut the Horse when on a visit to his native place.

In the Lordship of Tysoe in Warwickshire is, or was, a Red Horse, which gave its name to the "Vale of Red Horse" beneath. This is traditionally reported to have been cut in 1461, in memory of the exploits of Richard, Earl of Warwick, one of the most prominent figures in the Wars of the Roses. The Earl had in the early part of the year found himself with 40,000 men, opposed to Queen Margaret's force of 60,000, at Towton, near Tadcaster. Overborne by numbers, the battle was going against him, when, dismounting from his horse, he plunged his sword up to the hilt in the animal's side, crying that he would fight shoulder to shoulder with his men. Thereupon his soldiers, animated by their leader's example, rushed forward with such impetuosity that the enemy gave way, and fled precipitately. It was to this victory that Prince Edward owed his elevation to the Throne, which took place immediately afterwards.

The Red Horse used to be scoured every year on Palm Sunday at the expense of some neighbouring landowners, who held their land by that tenure, and the scouring is said to have been as largely attended, and to have been the occasion of as great festivity, as the scouring of the White Horse at Uffington. The figure was about 54 feet in length by 31 feet in height.

This Horse was destroyed at the time of the enclosures in 1798, and the annual fair held in connection with the scouring was in danger of becoming extinct. But the host of the "Sun-rising" Inn, now Edghill House, promptly had another Horse cut out in a field adjacent to the inn, and the annual merry-making got a new lease of life. (F. L. Griggs, "Highways and Byways in Oxford and the Cotswolds." Macmillan, 1905.)

But from a letter in the *Times*, August 25, 1907, it would seem that even the later figure was in danger of obliteration, for the writer says that "this strange figure has totally vanished, or else is so overgrown with plantations as to be invisible." Probably, when the inn was gone, it was not anyone's interest to look after the Horse, which in this case is especially regrettable.

The story that the original Horse was cut by the King-Maker in memory of the charger he slew on Towton field is improbable, since the valley was called the "Vale of the Red Horse" long before his time, but the fact that the battle of Towton was fought on a Palm Sunday may have connected Warwick and the Yorkist victory with the Palm Sunday scouring.

The Rev. Richard Jagoe ("Edgehill, or the Rural Prospect Delineated and Moralised"), in 1767, suggests that the Red Horse is the symbol of the Saxon conquest, corresponding to the White Horse of the Berkshire Downs. Thus, as the broad expanse of hill country stretching from Faringdon to Edghill is bounded by the Vale of the White Horse on the south, so it has the Vale of the Red Horse for its boundary on the north. (F. L. Griggs, op. sup. cit.)

Thus it may be that the original Red Horse was contemporaneous with the Uffington White Horse, the colour being due to the accident of soil only.

Mr. Wise (1742) says that "its name, or the antiquity of it (the Red Horse) are not so universally acknowledged" as those of the White Horse at Uffington, and "the whole betrays itself to be the work of a later age and more rude workmen," probably of some retainers of the Earl of Warwick, but they may have re-cut the original Horse, as the Horse at Westbury was re-cut.

About midway between Berwick and Polegate stations, near Eastbourne, Sussex, at a point where the side of the hill is very steep, may be seen from the railway-carriage windows a rude imitation of the human form, outlined in white. The figure, which is about 240 feet in height, was formerly cut in the turf, like the White Horses. It became so indistinct that the outline was, by order of the then Duke of Devonshire, marked by white bricks, placed closely together. The figure holds a long staff in each hand, possibly originally intended to represent a bow and a spear.

There is no legend extant to account for this figure, the country folks merely attributing it to the exertions of the monks of the adjacent Priory of Wilmington in their idle moments.

The theory is that this, and the Giant at Trendle Hill, near Cerne Abbas, Dorset, were sacrificial figures. We learn from the writings of Cæsar that the Gauls (and doubtless the Britons also) had figures of vast size, which were formed of

osiers, and were filled with living men. Strabo informs us that in these figures were placed fuel, cattle, and several kinds of wild beasts, which seems to shew that these "figures" could not have been basket-work idols, but were enclosures, marked out by hurdles, like a sheep-pen, in the shape of a man.

In the immediate neighbourhood of the place at which Cæsar landed was such an "image" 249 feet in height, and on so steep a slope of a hill as almost to seem upright. This, fenced round in the manner customary with the Britons in their defences in the woods, would have represented an almost upright human form, and at the same time an arena.

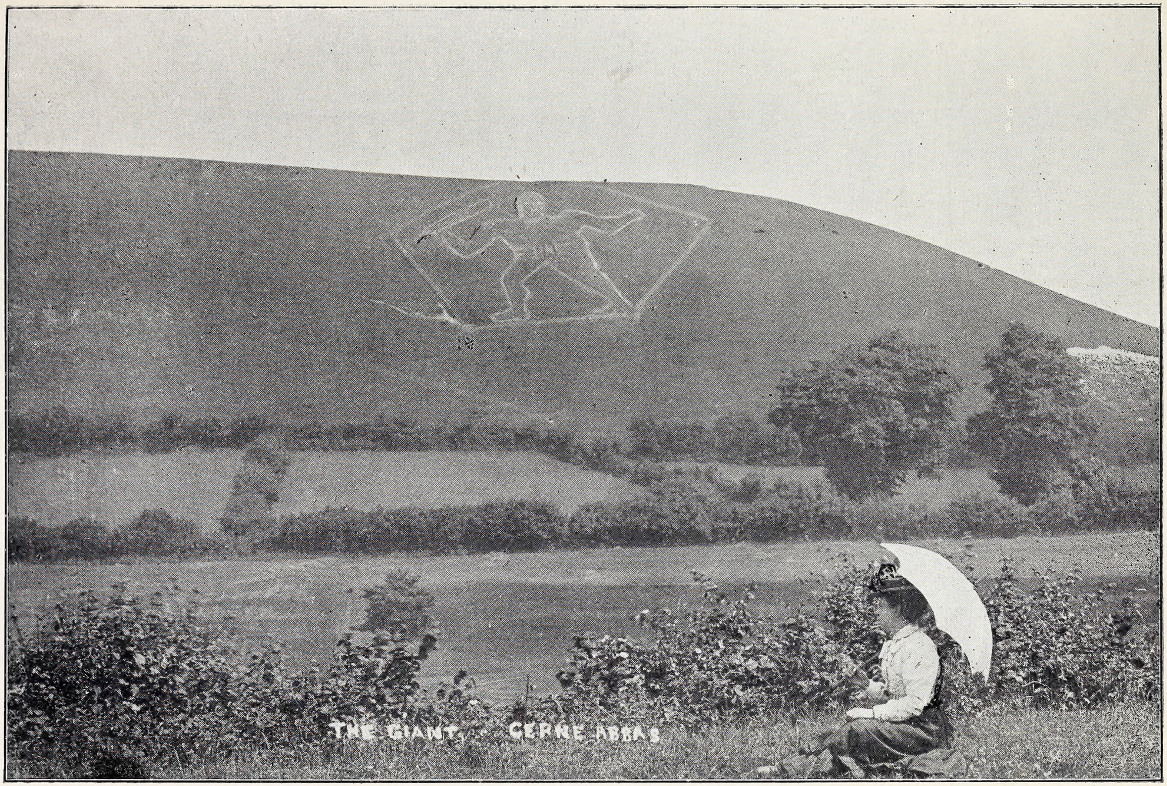
The staves shown in the hands of the Long Man at Wilmington are regarded as the symbols of a pilgrim. And the figure probably represents the deity whom Cæsar says the Britons believed to have "great influence over the acquisition of gain and mercantile transactions." And Wilmington is in the centre of that locality which had the greatest mercantile dealings with the Continent.

It is quite probable that Cæsar had the Long Man of Wilmington in mind when he wrote the account referred to above.

The Giant of Trendle Hill is on the southern slope of the hill, near Cerne Abbas, Dorset.

Most antiquaries agree that this is a figure of great antiquity, and make little doubt that it is a representation of the Saxon deity Heil, so that it must have been made at least before A.D. 600, when the Saxons were converted to Christianity. Dr. Stukely, in 1764, conjectured that the figure was even older than this, believing that it was cut as a memorial to the Phœnician Hercules, and also in compliment to Eli, King of the Trinobantes, and father of Cassivelaunus, who fought against Cæsar. But if, as is said, the figures or characters formerly visible between the lower limbs of the figure were 748, this might have been in commemoration of Cenric, son of Cuthred, King of Wessex, who was killed in that year.

But it was not usual to date sculpture in ancient times, and there is no record as to the form of these characters, which it seems were obliterated by a workman employed to retrace the outlines of the Giant; and the date, if it existed, may have been merely part of the record of some repair or scouring. Arabic numerals, it need hardly be said, were unknown in Europe until at least six centuries after this period.



TURF MONUMENT.

Wise believed this figure to be not so old as the White Horses at Uffington and Westbury. Aubrey notes that there was a similar figure at Shotover Hill, near Oxford. This seems to have disappeared, though the fact that under the hill the little village is called Horsepath may contain some reference to it. If so the Horse must have been an old one, for the village appears as Horspadan in Doomsday Book. Aubrey, however, speaks as of a figure not a horse.

An old black letter book, which cannot now be traced, states that the figure on Trendle Hill was cut in derision of the Abbot of Cerne when the monastery was abolished, he being uupopular on account of his bad conduct. But another account relates that Cerne Abbey was founded by St. Augustine to commemorate his having "broken there in pieces Heil, the idol of the heathen English Saxons, and chased away the fog of heathen superstition."

Britton, again, tells us that "vulgar tradition makes this figure commemorate the destruction of a giant who, having feasted on some sheep at Blackmoor, and laid himself down to sleep on this hill, was pinioned down like another Gulliver, and killed by the enraged peasants, who immediately traced his dimensions for the information of posterity."

Fabulous as this story no doubt is, it is perhaps a proof of the great antiquity of the figure. The statement that it was made by some of Lord Holles's servants during his residence at Cerne is evidently untrue, for old people living in 1772 who were then 80 or 90 years old, stated that they recollected that in their childhood they had heard very old people speak of this figure as having existed long before their time.

Dr. Stukeley, who read a paper on this Giant before the Society of Antiquaries in 1764, shewed a drawing of the figure, which holds a club in its right hand.

Mr. Sydenham in a treatise on this Giant, which he considers to have been made by the Celta-Belgæ, the invading sun worshippers, to commemorate avictory over the aboriginal Celts, gives the dimensions in detail of the figure as 180 feet in height, 44 feet across the shoulders, and so on. (Hutchin's "History of Dorset.")

A subscription having been raised in the neighbourhood, the Giant was repaired with fresh chalk in 1908. (*Western Mercury*, Aug. 8, 1908.)

There are the remains of an ancient fortification on the hill above the Giant, and there is a barrow not far off. The

word "Trendle" is Saxon, and means a ring—the word is akin to *trundle, i.e.*, to roll along—which seems to favour the idea of sun-worship.

The last Turf Monuments of England to be noticed are the Crosses at Whiteleaf and Bledlow.

The Cross at Whiteleaf in Buckinghamshire is cut on the side of one of the hills of the Chiltern Range, near Chinnor, Oxon. It is a Latin Cross rising from a triangular base 340 feet wide. The vertical stem of the Cross is about 100 feet in length and 50 feet in breadth; the arms measure 70 feet and are about 12 feet in breadth. The trench is cut some three feet deep in the chalk.

It is believed that this Cross commemorates a victory of Edward the Elder over the Danes in 910. A care has been taken of this Cross which might well be extended to similar objects of interest. By an Inclosure Act (9 of George IV.) it is styled the "ancient memorial or land-mark," and it is directed that it be kept in proper order by the lord of the manor, the owner of the Hampden estates. (Murray's Guide to Oxfordshire.)

Mr. Francis Wise in his "Observations on the Antiquities of Berkshire" considers that this Cross is a memorial analogous to the Uffington White Horse, but of somewhat later date, when the heathen device of the Saxons had been exchanged for a Christian symbol after their conversion to Christianity. He quotes the Saxon Chronicle with reference to an inroad of the Danes as far as Cricklade, Wilts, in 905, and a raid on the country between Ailesbury and Bernwood Forest in Buckinghamshire, which extended almost to Oxford. And he points out that there are the remains of a Saxon fortification at Prince's Risborough, just under the Whiteleaf Cross. The battle commemorated by the Cross, he thinks, was probably fought at the neighbouring village of Bledlow, a name signifying the Bloody Hill, which he considers is paralleled by Bleadon in Somerset, with reference to a great slaughter of the Danes there in King Ethelwulph's reign, A.D. 845.

With regard to Mr. Wise's etymology, it may be remarked that the Rev. J. S. Hill, in his "Place-Names of Somerset," derives Bleadon from the personal name Bledda, and states that in a charter of Glastonbury Abbey the village is named Bledan-hit or Bleadanhead. The original spelling of Bledlow, Mr. Hill says, is Blaedanhlew, which also points to the ownership name. But he is rather fond of connecting all his etymologies with personal names.

Lipscombe in his History of Buckinghamshire thinks that the Cross was not cut as a memorial of a battle, but that it may merely denote that the land belonged at the date of Doomsday Book to Archbishop Lanfranc, whose Standard Bearer, Algar Stalre, or his ancestors thought that the setting up of the Cross would be appropriate to the conversion of the Britons to Christianity. The Cross was the armorial bearing of Christ Church, Canterbury.

Another local authority, Rev. A. Baker (vol. i. Buckinghamshire Records) speaks of "a second Cross, traditionally coeval with that at Whiteleaf, incised on a still more prominent hill in the parish of Bledlow," just above Chinnor, of Greek form, with four equal limbs each 30 feet by 15 feet. It has no base. It is said that the Earl of Buckinghamshire holds the land around the Cross on condition of keeping it as common land and the Cross in order. But he seems to have been remiss in his duties, for Mr. Baker says that the Cross is "now overgrown with weeds."

Mr. Baker adds, "may not this have been the original monument, and have suggested the position of the other, as on a more conspicuous spot, where it would have served the further purpose of a wayside Cross, the monks being the authors of this monument?" Possibly a right of Sanctuary, or demarcation of Church lands may have been included in the demarcation.

Nothing seems to be known about the Cross at Plumpton, Sussex.

The Cross at Plumpton is not far from Wilmington. The Cross measures about 15 yards in all directions from the centre, and indicates the four points of the compass. Tradition declares that the Cross was made to commemorate the great victory of the Barons under Simon de Montfort over Henry III. in the Battle of Lewes, 1264; this was fought on the ridge of hills behind the town. The Lewes Race Course now occupies part of the battlefield. The name of King Henry is perpetuated by the hill named Mount Harry. Henry III. and Prince Edward after their defeat were imprisoned in Lewes Castle. It is more than likely that the Cross marks the burial-place of some at least of those who fell in the battle. It is much overgrown and scarcely visible except towards sunset. (Pearson's Magazine.)

There are two Turf Monuments in Scotland, both on Mormond Hill, Aberdeenshire—a White Horse, cut in the eighteenth century, and a Stag cut in 1870. Neither of these

seem to have any particular interest, though the Horse is a picturesque figure in the landscape. There are no Turf Monuments so far as I know in Ireland.

Much of the information in this paper is taken from Hughes' "Scouring of the White Horses," and Mr. Plenderleath's Book on the White Horses, but these books are not very accessible, and even if you are acquainted with them, you will, I dare say, pardon my endeavouring to put before you the information I have picked up, in, so to speak, a portable form.

The Chairman cordially thanked Mr. Scott for having given the Members of the Society the benefit of his researches into that somewhat rare subject. He had treated the subject in a highly interesting manner and his inquiries must have taken him a considerable time. They were greatly indebted to him.

History of Monkton Combe.

Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn.

The third address arranged for the year was given by the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn at the Literary and Scientific Institution on December 9th. The Rev. H. H. Winwood presided.

The lecturer began by pointing out that the very name Monkton Combe took them back, far back into the past, for Combe was an ancient British word, and its use led to the inference that there was a village there before Saxon times. The probability of this theory being correct was supported by the fact that there were ancient British settlements on Hampton Down and at other places near. After the Saxon Conquest of Bath, following the battle of Deorham Down (now Dyrham) in 577, the Saxons occupied the village, and preserved the name of Combe, then spelt "Cume." In Doomsday Book it was spelt in this way. The "two mills" mentioned in this survey were for grinding corn, and probably stood on the sites of the two mills now in existence—Mr. T. R. Freeman's flock mills and the Fuller's Earth Works at the spot known as "Tucking Mill." The name Combe was, he pointed out, borne by many places in Somerset and Devon, with the addition or prefix of some distinctive title, such as Combe Hay, Combe Martin, Charlcombe, Englishcombe.

In this case the distinguishing title Monkton was prefixed to the old name Combe, because the place was from ancient times monastic property. In the oldest register belonging to the parish, commencing 1566, the name was written "Monncken Combe," that was Monks Combe, "Monncken" being the old form of the plural of monk. This might have been altered to Monkton in order to bring it into line with many names or places ending in "ton." There was at different times some variety in the spelling. It was sometimes "Monckton," once in the old book of overseers' accounts it was "Monktin," and more than once it was written "Mountain Combe." He had himself received a letter addressed "Monkey Combe." (Laughter.) It sounded personal, but it reached him all right. But in whatever way the name was spelt it preserved the history of the place—that nine centuries ago and for long afterwards it belonged to the monks of Bath. There was no monastery there; the monastery was in the city on the south side of the Abbey Church. This manor being so near to Bath, and not let to a tenant, it was likely that it was used as a farm to supply the Abbey table with food, and perhaps also as a country retreat for the Prior, or for monks ailing in health. There were two groups of old monastic buildings in Monkton Combe, the position of which the lecturer indicated.

During the 19th century evidence of the occupation of Monkton Combe by the Romans was found in the discovery of a Roman villa in the parish. The remains were first noted about the year 1822, and were partly excavated in 1860 and following years, when the late Mr. Cruickshank acquired the property and built his house. The villa was described as built round three sides of a quadrangle as was usual, but only two sides were actually explored and no proper plan of the building was made. Mr. Lee Pitcairn spoke of the many articles recovered from the villa, such as 230 coins of dates approximating to 290 A.D., keys, iron head of a javelin, etc., and mentioned that Mr. Cruickshank kept most of the articles at his house during his lifetime, and that since his death they had been transferred to the Bath Museum. Five stone coffins were also found. The lecturer pointed out that a Roman villa was not at all the same thing as a modern villa or villa residence. It combined a country seat with a farm, and was inhabited not only by the master but by a considerable number of servants or natives, who were engaged in farm work or processes of manufacture. It was likely that from this villa, near Kingham farm, the whole valley was cultivated so far as it could be and wild animals hunted for food and for their skins. There would be many wild animals then, which had long since died out.

The lecturer referred to the Registers of the parish and mentioned that the original book bore on the cover a leather label stating that it was "Restored Anno Domini 1798, by Richard Shute, of London, silk merchant, a native of the above parish and a descendant of the family of Shute mentioned in the said Register." Mr. Lee Pitcairn read several of the earlier entries and mentioned that the Commonwealth had left its mark on the Register. Up to that time children were registered as "baptized" or "christened," but the Long Parliament passed an Act that, instead of baptisms and burials, births and deaths should be registered. He quoted entries to show how this affected the Register, and also spoke of other entries made in it, showing that collections were made generally in answer to a Brief from the Bishop, or other authority, asking for a collection for a certain charitable object. Many of these were for losses by fire. Such collections all over the county formed a sort of mutual insurance against losses by fire at a time when no other system of insurance existed. The lecturer referred to entries of collections for fires. One entry showed that on the 16th December, 1661, the sum of thirteen pence was collected "towards the Brief of one Henry Harrison for the loss of a ship and goods to the value of £7,000 and upwards." Two of the entries showed that collections were made for the ransom of Christian slaves from the Moors in North Africa. Another entry was for sums "collected in Monkton Combe towards the 'repayring' and beautifying of St. Paul's Church, in London." Then followed a list of fifteen subscribers. The entry, said Mr. Pitcairn, was undated, but from the names it was clear that this was the Old St. Paul's which was destroyed in the Great Fire of London. Another old book to which the lecturer referred was one containing the Churchwardens' Accounts, which he found in an old box in the vestry. This book commenced in 1657, and a number of entries in it were read.

A relic from "the good old times" of the 17th and 18th centuries was, said Mr. Lee Pitcairn, the old lock-up or "blind house," standing in the lower part of the village. Though now deprived of its invariable companions, the pound, the stocks, and the whipping-post, all four of which might still be seen together at Great Malvern, they had all been there about forty years ago. The lock-up was a very strong substantial body of stone.

The history of the church was given by Mr. Lee Pitcairn, who quoted Collinson's description of the Norman building. About the beginning of the 19th century the inhabitants,

instead of restoring the little old church, pulled it down and out of the materials built a new church of about the same size, seating only 90 persons. It was erected in 1814 and did not last long; the Rev. Francis Pocock, being appointed in 1863, found this intermediate church in a very dilapidated state and quite too small for the needs of the parish, and had the courage to undertake the entire re-building. The present building was re-opened for service on July 4th, 1865.

The lecturer gave an interesting account of some of the memorials in the church and churchyard. A large monument in the churchyard commemorates the drowning of six persons, Mrs. Shute and two daughters, and three other persons, through the upsetting of a boat on the Wye. They were drowned on a Sunday on the morning of which they had attended Divine Service at Chepstow Church, and had heard a sermon on text Philippians i. 21, "To me to live is Christ and to die is gain." The epitaph on the monument, which has recently been restored by the family, was written by the poet, Thomas Campbell, a friend and neighbour of the Shutes at Sydenham, and contained an allusion to the sermon. It is as follows:—

In deep submission to the Will above,
Yet with no common cause for human tears,
This stone for the lost Partner of his love,
And for his children lost, a Mourner rears.

One fatal moment, one o'erwhelming doom,
Tore threefold from his heart the ties of earth:
His Mary, Margaret, in their early bloom
And her who gave them life and taught them worth.

Farewell! ye broken pillars of my fate!
My life's companion, and my two first born;
Yet while this silent stone I consecrate
In conjugal paternal love forlorn,

Oh! may each passer-by the lesson learn
Which can alone the bleeding heart sustain,
(When Friendship weeps at Virtue's funeral urn)
That to the pure in heart—"to die is gain."

Two younger sisters escaped by clinging to the overturned boat; the other three victims, Mr. and Miss Rothery, of Pulteney-street, Bath, and Miss Hester Fisher, of Waterhouse, Monkton Combe, are commemorated by another epitaph on the same monument.

The lecturer briefly outlined the history of Monkton Combe School, which had, he remarked, made Monkton Combe widely known. The house occupied by the Headmaster, the Rev. J. W. Kearns, M.A., of Wadham College, Oxford, was formerly

an inn, and as such was visited by Louis Napoleon, afterwards Emperor of France. That was whilst he was residing in a private capacity in Bath. An upstair room in the house was pointed out as the one in which Louis Napoleon used to sit and smoke his pipe and meditate perhaps on his projects. A well-known Bathonian, Mr. Wm. Hayward, Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths, well remembered Louis Napoleon in Bath. He used to stay at the Sydney House Hotel, of which Mr. Hayward's father was caterer, and as a boy he frequently saw the future Emperor. The school was commenced as a private school by the Rev. Francis Pocock, Vicar in 1868, refounded a few years later by the Rev. Henry Wright, who appointed the Rev. R. G. Bryan principal, and built a dining hall with classroom and dormitories. In time, as the school increased, the building was extended, and it was now definitely settled as a permanent Trust and enrolled as a Public School under the title Monkton Combe School.

Another claim Monkton Combe had to fame was as the starting-place of the Science of Geology in this country. At the hamlet called Tucking Mill, at the western extremity of the parish of Monkton Combe on the now abandoned canal, an old house bore a small marble tablet with the inscription :

" In This House Lived
William Smith,
The Father of
English Geology."

This ingenious pioneer of science was born in 1769, and became a mineral surveyor and civil engineer. In 1794 he was appointed engineer to the Somerset Coal Canal Company; this canal passed, or used to pass, through Monkton Combe, but was now extinct and superseded by the railway. He bought the house, now the offices of the Fuller's Earth Factory, and made it his residence. He was the first to lay down the important formula of the identification of strata by their characteristic organic remains, the great key to unlock the definite order of organic succession in the crust of the earth. He was also the first man to frame a complete geological map of England and Wales. A reminiscence of his country home remained embedded in the nomenclature of geology in the name "Midford Sands," given to a certain formation found at the top of the Upper Lias and at the base of the Oolite series. These sands were exposed in the making of the Somerset and Dorset Railway, the long tunnel between Bath and Midford being cut through them, and they were found also at other places in the hills around Bath.

Mr. Lee Pitcairn concluded his lecture with a reference to the building of the Dundas Aqueduct, the picturesque bridge of Bath stone with three arches carrying the Kennet and Avon Canal over the River Avon and Great Western Railway. He mentioned that when the Canal was opened in 1810 boats for passengers were put upon it called locally "the Scotch boats," because built after a Scotch model, and it became a famous amusement for the inhabitants of Bath to travel out in them in a leisurely fashion to the Dundas Aqueduct, and spend the day at the Italian villa, with grounds sloping down to the water, now occupied by Mrs. Freestun, but then an hotel. The parish of Monkton Combe and his lecture ended at that spot.

The Chairman voiced the thanks of those present and of the Association to Mr. Lee Pitcairn for his interesting address.

Discovery on Lansdown.

THOS. S. BUSH.

For several months this year parties of about 100 men of the North Somerset Yeomanry, under Major A. H. Gibbs, have been employed twice weekly in carrying out interesting and instructive military work on the site of the battle of Lansdown. At the early stage some of these men were engaged for a time in digging trenches and making a bomb-proof shelter while the others were being drilled, then those digging were relieved in succession by the others, so all had a turn with pick and shovel. The main part of the earlier work was carried out on the right of the road within a short distance of the Grenville Monument. Here the ground had not been previously disturbed, and, as usual on the Down, rock was usually met with at about 18 inches below the surface. Major Gibbs was present during the operations and was not oblivious to the fact that antiquities might be brought to light, but nothing was discovered on this site. Later on, all the men were employed on the left side of the road, at about one-eighth of a mile slightly west of south of the Monument. On this side of the road are many mounds, extending over a considerable area, that had evidently been thrown up at a remote period when quarrying to obtain stone for building the many walls on the Down. Here the work consisted of making a bomb-proof shelter with trenches leading into it, outer trenches and dug-out. On September 9th, when digging to construct

one of the last named, at 3½ feet below the surface, was discovered two parts of columns, each about 18 inches high *(see illustration)*; one was standing upright, the other on its side. Later on, at a short distance away, two parts of one of the columns were unearthed. It must be a matter of conjecture whether these columns had been worked on the site, but the Rev. H. H. Winwood is of opinion that they were, and that the stone came from a quarry a short distance away, as a thick bed of the Great Oolite was exposed in a section just below the edge of the Down and even cropped up on the surface.

The writer visited the site several times, Major Gibbs having kindly given him an early intimation of digging operations he proposed carrying out.

Major Gibbs having obtained the consent of Mr. Robert Blathwayt (owner of the property), has handed over these Roman columns to the Literary and Scientific Institution, Bath, to be placed in the Museum.

The Rev. H. H. Winwood has been in communication with Professor F. Haverfield about these columns, having sent him a photograph with particulars of their discovery, resulting in the Professor favouring him with the following note for publication:—

"The pieces are capitals and they appear to be Roman, of the kind which some people call Doric and some Tuscan; the Tuscan-Doric style was not often used by the imitators of classical. To what precise part of the Roman period they may belong I should not venture to guess, but (I think) not to its latest part. I do not know much of mediæval work, but I doubt if mediæval capitals of this kind occur; if, however, there were cause to believe that the posts were of quite late (eighteenth century) date, it might be arguable that the capitals were made then for some building of good classical style and considerable size then being set up in Bath."

Photo Middleton Ashman & Co.

TWO ROMAN COLUMNS FROM LANSDOWN.

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL

AND

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1903 Davis Rev. J. Roland, M.A., Broughton Gifford Rectory.
1903 Davis Colonel T. Arnoll, Weston Park House.
1912 Dease Patrick P., Esq., 6, Widcombe Crescent.
1912 Dease Mrs., 6, Widcombe Crescent.

1903 Ellacombe Rev. Canon, Bitton Vicarage Bristol.

1903 Ferrari Miss F. J., Batheaston House.
1912 Fosbery Dr., 1, Oxford Row.
1911 Foxcroft Charles T., Esq., Hinton Charterhouse.
1908 *Gervis Henry, Esq., M.D., F.S.A., 15, Royal Crescent.
1908 Gervis Miss Dora L., 15, Royal Crescent.
1906 Goldie Robert F., Esq., South Lawn, Lansdown.
1914 Graham Miss, 26, Combe Park.
1910 Gregory Mrs., Mount Beacon House.
1903 *Gregory George, Esq., 5, Argyle Street.
1903 *Grey Gerald J., Esq., Collina House, Bathwick Hill.
1904 Grey Mrs., Collina House, Bathwick Hill.
1915 Grierson Miss, 11, Camden Crescent.

1905 Hallett T. G. Palmer, Esq., M.A., Claverton Lodge, Bathwick.
1903 *Hallett Mrs., Claverton Lodge, Bathwick.
1912 Hamilton Miss, Glanworth, Sion Road.
1915 Head H. E., Esq., 14, Dunsford Place.
1904 Heathcote J. Cuthbert, Esq., Brent Knoll Manor, Somerset.
1915 *Hignett Geoffrey, Esq., Hodshill, Southstoke.
1915 *Hignett Mrs., Hodshill, Southstoke.
1913 Hodges C. M., Esq., 9, George Street, Bathwick Hill.
1913 Holmes Thomas J., Esq., Eastern House, Beechen Cliff.
1914 Holt Miss F. V., 13b, Henrietta Street.
1903 *Horne Rev. Ethelbert, Downside Abbey.
1915 Horne Miss E. M., The Lodge, Limpley Stoke,
1903 *Hylton Right Hon. Lord, Ammerdown Park, Radstock.

1913 Irwin Mrs. A., Fonthill, Lansdown.

1913 Jackson Miss, Glanworth, Sion Road.

1903 *Kemeys-Tynte, St. David M., Esq., The Beeches, Bathwick Hill.
1903 *Kirkwood Colonel Hendley P., Newbridge House.
1903 Knight Miss J. F., The Limes, Lansdown.

1905 *Lawrence F. W., Esq., M.R.A.S., F.R.G.S., Hillcote, Lansdown.
1908 Lawrence Rev. G. Henry, The Vicarage, High Littleton.
1915 Layton Mrs., 11, Camden Crescent.
1908 Leigh Colonel P. P., C.I.E., Grosvenor House.
1913 Light Lieut.-Colonel, Eddystone, Monkton Combe.
1913 Linley-Howlden H., Esq., Old Manor House, Freshford
1905 Longlands Mrs., 18, Belmont.
1910 Longworth-Dames Miss C., 2, Winifred's Dale.

1904 Machell Mrs. L., 13, Park Street.
1913 Massy Miss, 2, Duke Street.
1913 Maule Major-General, 2, Penn Lea, Newbridge Hill.
1906 *Miller Thomas H., Esq.
1907 Miller Mrs.

1913 Milsom A. C., Esq., De Montalt, Combe Down.
1913 Milsom Mrs., De Montalt, Combe Down.
1904 Morley Charles, Esq., Shockerwick House.
1909 Mules Rev. F. H., 17, Pulteney Road.

1910 Nash Lieut.-Colonel, 7, Laura Place.
1910 Nash Mrs., 7, Laura Place.
1912 Newham Miss, 11, Raby Place, Bathwick.
1903 *Norman George, Esq., F.S.A.I., 12, Brock Street.
1907 Norman Mrs., 12, Brock Street.
1913 Norman Miss, Oakfield, Weston Park.

1903 Pagden Mrs., Batheaston House.
1912 Parry Hubert, Esq., Hillsborough, Beechen Cliff.
1913 Perks Rev. R. M., Court Essington, Midford.
1913 Phillimore J. E. Esq., Sedgley, Sion Road.
1904 *Pinckney A. B., Esq., The Orchard, Bathford.
1904 Pinckney Mrs., The Orchard, Bathford.
1904 Pitcairn Rev. D. Lee, M.A., Bushey House, Monkton Combe.
1904 Pitcairn Mrs., Bushey House, Monkton Combe.
1904 Pitman Ernest, Esq., Penn Hill.
1911 Pitt Mrs., 3, Lansdown Grove.
1913 Powell Rev. W. H., D.D., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1911 Powell Mrs. W. H., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1915 Powell Mrs., 12, Rivers Street.
1907 Pryce Ernest, Esq., 10, Cavendish Crescent.
1906 Pryce Mrs., 10, Cavendish Crescent
1913 Pryor Mrs., 2, Woodhill Place, Bathwick Hill.

1905 Reade Rev. Robert C. L., M.A., Charlcombe Rectory.
1905 Reade Mrs., Charlcombe Rectory.
1909 Rodman Miss, 17, The Tyning.
1903 Rolleston Colonel V., Saltford House, Bristol.
1903 Rolleston S. V., Esq., B.C.L., M.A., Saltford House, Bristol.
1911 Rose H. F., Esq., Glencairn, Pulteney Road.
1914 Rose Mrs. H. F., Glencairn, Pulteney Road.

1904 Salmon Miss E. E., 26, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1904 Salmon Miss L. M., 30, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1913 Sanderson Miss, 28, Combe Park.
1913 Sanderson Miss A. V., 28, Combe Park.
1903 *Scott M. H., Esq., 5, Lansdown Place, West.
1910 Scott Mrs., 28, The Circus.
1915 Seagar Edward, Esq., Bella Vista, Lansdown.
1915 Seagar Mrs., Bella Vista, Lansdown.
1903 Shum Frederick, Esq., 17, Norfolk Crescent.
1907 Shum F. E., Esq., 6, Bathwick Hill.
1903 *Sibbald G. E., Esq., Mount Pleasant, Norton St. Philip.
1903 Spender Miss, 34, Marlborough Buildings.
1905 Staight S. Neville, Esq., Battlefields.
1903 Stone Robert S., Esq., Bath and County Club.
1903 *Strachie Lord, Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol.
1911 Straghan Mrs., 26, Crescent Gardens.
1913 Strangways Miss, Shapwick, Somerset.
1912 Strangways Miss R. C., 6, Brunswick Place.

1915 Tanner J. H., Esq., 12 Beaufort East.
1915 Tanner Mrs., 12, Beaufort East.
1904 Taylor A. J., Esq., 18, New Bond Street.
1903 *Thatcher A. A., Esq., Midsomer Norton.
1903 *Thomas C. E., Esq., 13, Queen Square.
1903 *Tite Charles, Esq., Stoneleigh, Taunton.
1904 Tyte W., Esq., 7, Bloomfield Crescent.

1914 Wace Henry, Esq., St. Winifreds.
1914 Wace Miss, St. Winifreds,
1914 Wadmore Rev. Prebendary, The Vicarage, Oakhill.
1903 *Waldegrave Right Hon. the Earl, Chewton Priory.
1913 Walker Robert, Esq., F.R.G.S.
1914 Ward Mrs. Langfield, Weston Lawn, Weston.
1910 Wardle F. D., Esq., Guildhall.
1905 Watson Mrs. Dominic, Bathampton House.
1904 Way Miss H. S., 12, Darlington Street,
1904 Wayne Miss F. C., Dale Cottage, Charlcombe.
1903 *Weaver Rev. F. W., M.A., F.S.A., Milton Clevedon Vicarage, Evercreech.
1903 *Whittuck E. A., Esq., Claverton Manor.
1909 *Wickham Rev. J. D. C., M.A., Holcombe Manor.
1904 Williams D. Prout, Esq., 7, Belvedere.
1913 Wills J. H., Esq., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Mrs., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Stanley, Esq., 14, Royal Crescent.
1913 Wills Mrs., 14, Royal Crescent.
1903 *Winwood Rev. H. H., M.A., F.G.S., 11, Cavendish Crescent.
1908 Wood Miss Ellen, 38, Combe Park.
1914 Wood Miss Margaret, 59, Combe Park.
1913 Woods John C., Esq., Bank House, Trowbridge.

1911 Young B. W., Esq., 1 Stanley Villas, Camden Road

The Treasurer in Account with the Bath and District Branch Somersetshire Archaeological Society for 1915.

1915. Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last year	98	14	10
,, 170 Members' Subscriptions	42	10	0
,, Sale of "Proceedings"	0	6	0
,, Excursions	4	1	8
,, Donation	0	5	6
,, Interest on Deposit—May	1	5	0
,, Ditto December	1	3	11
,, Deposit	50	0	0
	£198	6	11

1915. Cr.				£	s.	d.
By "Proceedings" for 1914—J. B. Keene & Co.				19	1	0
,, Prints and Photos for "Proceedings," 1914				0	19	0
,, Hire of Rooms, Literary Institution				0	17	6
,, J. B. Keene & Co.—Circulars and Stationery				3	16	8
,, Three Lectures—Hire of Room and Lantern, Postcards, &c.				5	11	6
,, Postage of "Proceedings," &c.				1	10	8
,, Ditto per Excursion Secretary				2	13	11
,, Subscription to National Trust				1	1	0
,, Ditto Somersetshire Archæological Society				1	1	0
,, Donation to Literary Institution				2	2	0
,, Photographs for "Proceedings," 1915				0	10	6
,, Cheque Book				0	2	1
,, Purchase £50 4½% War Stock				48	17	5
				88	4	3
,, Balance, War Stock	£50	0	0			
,, at Parr's Bank	60	2	8			
				110	2	8
				£198	6	11

Cost of "Proceedings," 1915, not included in the above.

Examined and found correct, 20th December, 1915—
ROBT. ISGAR.

THOS. S. BUSH, *Hon. Treasurer.*

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL

AND

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

REPORT, 1916.

ONCE again the Committee have pleasure in stating that, notwithstanding the abnormal times, the list of members remains full, with nine candidates waiting admission. Commencing the year with 172 members, two, as explained in last year's Report, being away from the district, were not called upon for their subscription, there have been 13 resignations, 6 deaths, and 18 elected, completing the limit 169, apart from the two mentioned above.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Literary Institution on March 14th, Earl Waldegrave, Vice-President, in the Chair. It will be seen by the report of the meeting that it was agreed to contribute £5 towards the restoration of the Tithe Barn, Bradford-on-Avon. The Committee are pleased to know that the work is being carried out most carefully by Mr. Harold Brakspear, F.S.A., for the Wiltshire Archæological Society.

The five half-day excursions of this year were well attended, and went off most satisfactorily. As stated in the last Report these excursions are instructive, not pleasure trips. Thanks are due to Mr. Gerald Grey for all the labour entailed in working up these excursions, which is no light

matter. The last on the list was by train ; this arrangement, or by horse-drawn vehicles, will have to be continued until the Order restricting the use of motor char-a-bancs has been withdrawn.

Miss Rodman has, as usual, been very active in taking photographs at the excursions ; from the many she has kindly sent us a few have been selected for reproduction. The Rev. Ethelbert Horne has kindly favoured us with notes on old glass in Westwood Church, which will certainly add to the interest of our Proceedings.

Mr. Thos. S. Bush gave an address at the Literary Institution on March 9th, on "Early Records of the Parish of Charlcombe and its People," illustrated by lantern slides. This, with additions and illustrations is printed with the Proceedings.

The thanks of the Committee are hereby given to Mr. Thos. S. Bush for his services as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The accounts, which have been audited by Mr. Isgar, will, no doubt, be considered satisfactory.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Literary Institution on Tuesday, March 14th, 1916, at 3 o'clock. Present: Earl Waldegrave, Vice-President, in the Chair, Rev. H. H. Winwood Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn, Rev. Ethelbert Horne, Major-General Bradshaw, Colonel Kirkwood, Colonel Clayton, Colonel Leigh, Colonel Arnoll Davis, Mr. M. H. Scott, Mr. E. Cay Adams, Mrs. T. S. Bush, Mr. Robert C. Bush, Mrs. Clayton, Mrs. Grey, Mrs. Layton, Miss Grierson, Miss Holt, Mrs. Pryer, Miss Rodman, Mr. Neville Staight, Miss M. A. Wood, Mr. Gerald Grey (Hon. Excursion Secretary), and Mr. Thos. S. Bush (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer).

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary read letters he had received from Lord Hylton, Prebendary Wadmore, and Mr. St. David Kemeys-Tynte, regretting they were unable to attend.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, congratulated the members on the continued success of the Branch. The Membership had kept up, notwithstanding the many calls, both as to time and money in consequence of the war. The volume for 1915 seemed to be the best that had been produced since the formation of the Branch; not only were the contents throughout of interest, but especially so the lectures, and the excellent illustrations added considerably to its value. The Committee have expressed their gratitude to the Rev. Ethelbert Horne, Mr. M. H. Scott and the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn for so kindly giving lecture, last year, and they hoped other members would volunteer their services in the same direction for this year. A start had already been made, Mr. T. S. Bush having given one on

March 9th, on "Early Records of Charlcombe." It would seem that all the male members of the Society were above the age under the Compulsion Act, so that they had not lost any in consequence of it. Captain Foxcroft (Vice-President), and Colonel Cox were with their Regiments. Major-General Bradshaw, Colonel Kirkwood, Colonel Clayton, and Colonel Leigh had been most active in many ways, and, of course, many members, ladies and gentlemen, had worked strenuously. A few of the gentlemen were doing useful work as special constables. The interesting excavation work had, of course, again had to remain in abeyance, but he hoped when we came to quieter times it would be possible to resume it. (Applause.)

Mr. R. C. Bush seconded, and the report and accounts adopted.

On the motion of Colonel Kirkwood, seconded by Mr. Cay Adams, Lord Hylton was re-elected President. Lord Waldegrave said he saw Lord Hylton a few days ago, and he expressed his regret at being unable to attend the meeting.

Lord Waldegrave, Lord Strachie, and Captain Charles Foxcroft were re-elected Vice-Presidents on the proposition of Mr. Winwood, seconded by Colonel Clayton.

On the proposition of Colonel Arnoll Davis, seconded by Mr. Staight, the following were elected the Committee:—Rev. H. H. Winwood, Colonel Clayton, Mr. St. David Kemeys-Tynte, Colonel Kirkwood, Colonel Leigh, Mr. George Norman, Mr. M. H. Scott, and Major-General Bradshaw, the last-named taking the place of Mr. F. Shum.

Mr. Thomas S. Bush was unanimously re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, on the motion of Colonel Leigh, seconded by Major-General Bradshaw.

The Rev. E. Horne moved the re-election of Mr. Grey as Hon. Excursion Secretary, saying they had had experience of his good management and courtesy.

Mr. Scott seconded, and it was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Grey, in returning thanks, said if, as expected, the Somerset Volunteers were called up for guard duty, they would have to find an understudy. The excursions for 1916 would be: (1) Bradford-on-Avon, Friday, April 28th; (2) Hinton Blewitt, Camely, and Litton, May 24th; (3) Tormarton, Chipping Sodbury, and Iron Acton; (4) Kelston, Bitton, and Hanham Court; (5) Bristol.

Acting upon the reference by the Rev. H. H. Winwood to the restoration of the Tithe Barn, Bradford-on-Avon, Colonel Kirkwood proposed, and Colonel Clayton seconded, that a donation of £5 be given to the Restoration Fund. This was supported by the Treasurer, and carried unanimously.

Mr. T. S. Bush proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Isgar for auditing the accounts. This was adopted.

On the motion of the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn, seconded by Colonel Kirkwood, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman.

Lord Waldegrave, in acknowledging the vote, said it seemed he should be in Bath a good deal now that the Somerset Appeal Tribunal was to meet here weekly. He hoped if excavations were possible next year Mr. Bush would resume that most interesting and valuable work on Lansdown. (Applause).

EXCURSIONS.

Bradford-on-Avon.
Friday, April 28th.

QUITE a large party of members attended the first excursion of the season. The members went by motor char-a-banc to Bradford-on-Avon. A sharp thunderstorm between 1 and 2 o'clock made the outlook unpromising at the start, but it was really a blessing in disguise, for it had effectually laid the dust, and the country, always beautiful in the Spring, looked all the fresher for it. There was no rain during the excursion.

On arriving at Bradford-on-Avon a visit was paid to the Tithe Barn, where Mr. Alfred Burder, F.S.A., was waiting to receive the members He prefaced his description by saying it was not the first time he had had the pleasure of addressing the Society, but he was glad to welcome new members. They were in the act of repairing the old barn. The barn was originally a grange of the Abbess of Shaftesbury, who was also the lady of the manor of Bradford, which was a very large manor, extending over seven parishes, and had a rent roll, which at present values would amount to some £40,000, so it would be quite worth while for the Abbess to have her representative living on the spot, looking after her rents. This barn belonged to the Edwardian period, to the early part of the reign of Edward III. Several such barns remained in the country, and there were two in Wiltshire, one at Tisbury, quite as large as this, and the other at Lacock, though it was not built as a barn but was turned into a barn in the time of Charles II. There was also the celebrated barn at Glastonbury. To King Offa of Mercia was attributed the first introduction of tithes into the kingdom, he having given all the tithes of his kingdom to expatiate the death of Ethelbert, whom he had murdered, but it was not until the 12th Century that it was ordered that the tithes should be paid in the particular parish in which they arose—and this was the origin of tithe barns. Tithes were originally paid in kind, and thus it was necessary to have ample storage. The internal dimensions of the barn were 167ft. 6ins. by 30ft. 3ins. The lord of the manor of Bradford-on-Avon (Sir Charles Hobhouse) had recently made over the barn to the Wilts Archæological Society, and when war broke out they were negotiating with the Office of Works, who had a department to hold ancient buildings, but their stipulation was that the

barn should be placed in a thorough state of repair before they would take it over. They found it impossible to raise sufficient funds during the war, and the Wilts Archæological Society agreed to take it, and hold it on not quite such stringent terms—they had to put it into a sufficient state of repair to prevent it from collapsing, and that was being done now. It would then be preserved as an ancient monument. The Society would not have undertaken a work of that kind but for the fact that if they had left it until the war was over there would probably have been no barn left. It was in a very critical condition. The cause of the failure of the roof was the crude, unscientific method of construction. Large timbers should run from the wall-plate right to the ridge, in one length. Some did, and some were jointed at the lower collar, and some were long enough to reach to the upper collar, after which the builders began to build in a very clumsy and crude way, to the top. That broke the whole strength of the roof, and the result was that the timbers opened and the walls had to give way. The walls were about 2 feet out of the upright at the wall-plate, though they were about level at the base. There were no straps or bolts to the mediæval roof. The timbers were originally tenoned and morticed together, and stout oak pins run through. They had been putting the pins right and the straps where necessary. Another interesting point was that when the timbers ran into the walls they were entirely shells and had entirely decayed. Mr. Harold Brakspear, the architect, was consulted, and the method he had adopted was ingenious. The decayed portion had been scooped out, and the hollowed spaces had been filled with Portland Cement, bolts, with plates on the inside, having been first put in so that when the whole crevice was filled the wood and the cement united and formed a solid mass like the timber was previously. It had been a very successful plan.

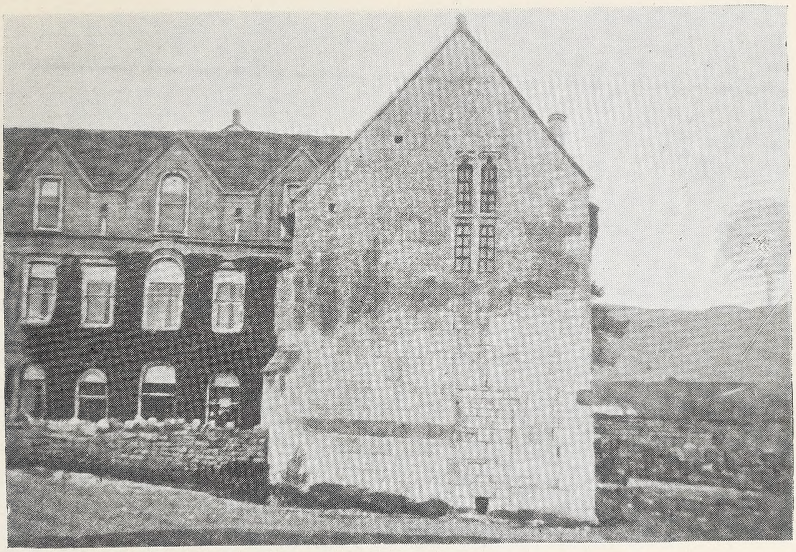
Mr. Burder explained other work of repair that was being undertaken, including the underpinning of the porches, replacing of rotten timber, and overhauling the tiles, and pointed out the many points of interest in the building, showing the various mason's marks that still remained. The mason probably marked his stone because he was paid for the work he did.

The Saxon Church.

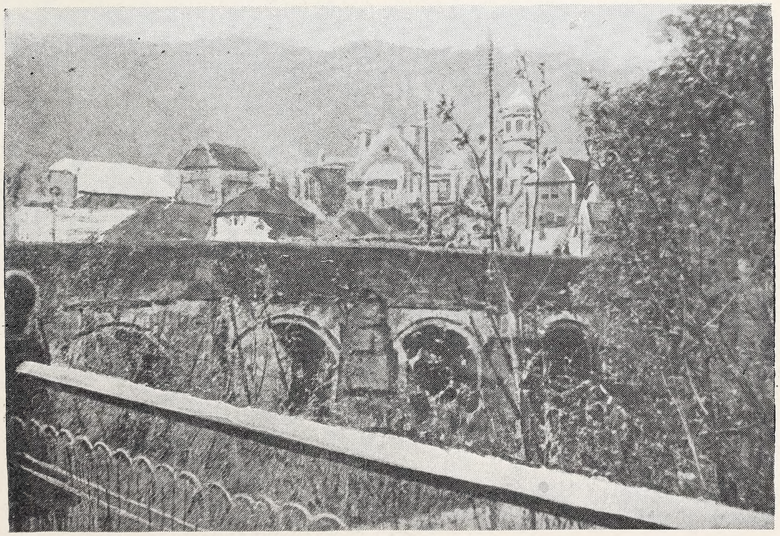
By way of the Town Bridge and Chapel, Mr. Burder took the party to the remarkable Saxon Church, and told how

up to about 1855 the existence of the church was lost sight of, the nave and porch was a school, the chancel belonged to another owner, and had been turned into a cottage, and a chimney stack had been built in place of the chancel arch. Ordinary house windows had been inserted in the original walls, and altogether the building had been transformed inside and out. Still, a tradition lingered in Bradford that there had been a Saxon church there, and the Vicar of that time, Canon Jones, noticing from the hills the roofs of the nave, chancel, and porch, of this building, thought it might be the lost church, though his first suggestion was received with ridicule. Discussing the construction of the building, Mr. Burder said it was clearly on a preconceived design, not haphazard. The walls stood on a square plinth, but on the eastern side of the north porch the church had no foundations, the rock itself cropping out of the ground and forming the foundation. In the interior the height was a noticeable feature, the height and length being the same, about 25ft. 5in. and the width 13ft. 2in. The chancel was 13ft. 2in. long. We hear of the little church in 1001, but it was not given in Domesday, so that it must have fallen into disuse between those dates, and to that fact Mr. Burder ascribed its unique characteristic, that it was wholly Saxon. Had it continued to be used as a church it must have suffered alteration at later periods.

The members then crossed the road and visited the Parish Church of the Holy Trinity, by permission of the Vicar (the Rev. A. T. Richardson). Mr. Burder again gave an interesting address, in the course of which he said the church was originally a Norman church, and consisted of a nave and chancel. The nave and the tower were later, and the chapel was also later. The chancel had been lengthened in the 14th Century, but the original east end was retained. There were windows of the Norman period in the nave and chancel, and Norman buttresses to both. In the 13th Century not much was done with the exception of two or three monuments, including a very beautiful mutilated figure, which still remained. In the 14th Century the town was rising in prosperity, and as they might expect, the church was not forgotten. The chancel was lengthened, and a good deal was done to the church. In 1420 Reginald Halle, who lived in the Hall, "provided for the endowment of a chaplain in the church of the Holy Trinity to celebrate Mass at the alter of St. Nicholas" for his soul and the soul of his mother—



OLD WINDOW, FARM HOUSE, BRADFORD-ON-AVON.



[*Photos, Miss Rodman*

OLD BRIDGE, BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

possibly in the little chapel which had been re-built. It was still called the Kingston Chapel, and belonged to the family who lived at the Hall. There was another chantry, at the east end of the aisle, built by Thomas Horton, a wealthy clothier of Bradford, and his monument bore the curious inscription :—

Pray for the soul of THOMAS HORTON,
who founded this Chantry, who deceased — day of ——— 15—,
and of MARY, his wife, who deceased ——

It was evidently engraved in his lifetime, and the dates were never filled in. He died at Westwood.

There was a reredos on the north wall of the north aisle, which was unusual. He did not know of any other instance in England of an altar except on the east wall, and it was thought that this aisle was originally divided by a cross-wall, and that the altar stood on the cross-wall. When the cross-wall was pulled down and the aisle made into one, they moved the reredos into its present place. The great object of the re-building of the middle ages was to get a path for the processions. The aisle was added in the 15th Century, but the arches separating the nave from the aisle were re-built in the middle of last century. They were supposed to be copies of the older ones, but the interest had gone. It originally contained a block of the Norman masonry in the middle, with a hagioscope. When the church was restored during last century the rood screen was removed, and only a fragment remained, which had been fixed on the west wall of the nave. In front of the doorway, at the bottom of the rood loft staircase, was a Bible, believed to be a reprint in 1572 of the Bishop's Bible, printed in 1568, and thought to be the first English version of the Bible used in the church. After its disuse it became the property of the clerk's family, who sold it, but a few years ago it was re-purchased by the churchwardens, and presented to the church.

Mr. Burder pointed out various monuments of interest, that on the north side within the altar rails, to Charles Steward, 1869, who assumed the regal crown to which, apparently, he had no right, and the other, on the south side, to Anthony Methuen, an ancester of the present Lord Methuen, whose family lived at the house, called in modern times "The Priory," but formerly, "the Methuens" (this house was seen on the way through Bradford), and on the floor of the chancel a slab to the memory of Henry Shrapnell, of the family of the inventor of the Shrapnell shell.

Mr. Burder also drew attention, among portraits of Vicars and Church clerks in the tower, to an engraving of Edward Orpin, Church clerk, whose portrait was painted by Gainsborough, and was now in the National Gallery. In the churchyard was seen what appeared to be a late 15th Century altar tomb. It was a Dole stone.

Finally, by the kindness of Mr. John Moulton, the party visited the Hall, and walked through the fine gardens. Mr. Moulton told the visitors that the chief interest in the house was the beauty of its architecture. It was built about 1600 by one John Halle, a member of a very old family in Bradford-on-Avon. There was evidence that there was a hall on the site before, and by the papers in the house they could go back to 1250. The last of the Halles died in 1711. Then it passed through the lady to whom he left his money to the representatives of the Kingston family, and that was how it became connected with the Duke of Kingston. In 1802 it was sold to a manufacturer, who turned it into part of his factory, putting looms in. It became, gradually, very dilapidated, and in 1848 his (Mr. Moulton's) father bought it and restored it.

Mr. Moulton was cordially thanked for his kindness by Colonel H. P. P. Leigh, and after tea at the Swan Hotel, Mr. M. H. Scott voiced the keen appreciation of the great debt the visitors owed to Mr. Burder.

Mr. Burder said Bradford-on-Avon was honoured by the visit of such a society, and thanked the Bath Branch for the way it had helped them in regard to the restoration of the Tithe Barn.

Bath was reached about half-past six.

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Camely, Hinton Blewett and Litton.

Thursday, May 18th.

The second excursion took place in brilliant weather, and a large party of members thoroughly enjoyed the fairly long drive through very pretty country. Camely, which lies about 12 miles from Bath, was reached via Corston, Farmborough, High Littleton, and Temple Cloud, about 20 minutes past 2.

The Rector (the Rev. W. Hippisley) a member of the ancient and distinguished Norman family of Hippisley, who came over with William the Conqueror, and have been the

lords of the manor since the 16th Century, awaited the party at the Church of St. James. The history of the manor of Camely is traced back to the time of the Conqueror, and it is said to have been given by Alexander de Alneto to the Church of St. Peter's, Bath, in 1153, and that Alexander de Alneto and his wife were buried at the Abbey. The parish church is very interesting. It is considered very probable that the primitive building was of Saxon date, though only a few stones actually remain to justify the idea, one being noticeable in the porch. Externally the church has an unmistakeable appearance of age, though its date is uncertain, and the eye is caught by the fine old south Norman porch, and the stone steps leading to the gallery, at the top of which is a very quaint old door. The interior is extraordinarily fascinating, for remarkably little has been done by way of restoration or alteration to destroy its originality. It is essentially an old-world interior, despite an inartistic gallery "erected in 1819 for the free use of the inhabitants." The church originally only extended towards the east as far as the chancel arch, which is supposed to be the original Saxon. The pulpit is Jacobean, and it was formerly so thickly plastered that the coating had to be chiselled off by the present rector with great labour in order to uncover the excellent carving. The plaster on the walls hides some of the old frescoes but the expense prevented this being restored. The Norman font and the Norman roof of the nave are also of interest, the carved bosses in the centre of the ceiling being unusual. A curious feature is the number of hat pegs in various parts of the church, nearly 100 being counted. The old-world seats attract attention immediately. There are some box pews, but the real interest lies in the old benches, hewn with axes out of the solid tree, which are neither comfortable nor beautiful, but are notably thick and strong. What look like low book rests are the ledges on which the worshippers used to kneel up with their feet on the seats.

Colonel H. P. P. Leigh warmly thanked the Rector for his courtesy.

Hinton Blewett was next visited, and at the parish church of All Saints' the aged vicar (the Rev. J. Hart Johnson), who was born and bred in the parish, as were his father and grandfather before him, extended a welcome to the party. His notes on the church were read by Mr. M. H. Scott. Hinton Blewett is a place of great antiquity, for tradition says the village green was once a Roman forum,

and, at any rate, the finding of copper coins of the reign of the Emperor Claudius establishes that the Romans occupied the spot. The church is quaint and interesting. The architecture is chiefly Perpendicular, and, with the exception of the modernised chancel the interior retains much of the old-world charm of antiquity. Probably the oldest relic is the ancient Norman font, which, instead of being massive and somewhat heavy, possesses both grace and excellent proportions. The bowl consists of a square block carved on the lower part in the well-known cushion pattern. The benches in the nave are excellent examples of the rough seats provided in early times. The ends of the benches are carved in various designs. The pulpit is a curious structure, dating from the times of the Puritans originally a three-decker, but now cut down to half the height. At the east end of the north aisle is a chapel enclosed by 15th Century arches. Attached to one of the pews is the staple which formerly held a chain to which the Bible was fastened, but both the Bible and the chain have disappeared. The chancel arch, which is wide and low, is Early English. The whole of the nave was formerly thickly coated with yellow ochre, and though much remains, the ladies at the Manor House personally scraped off the many coats of ochre from the pillars forming the arcades, which now stand out in their original design and beauty.

The Vicar was thanked by the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn.

Father Horne, of Downside Abbey, to whom the Bath Branch has been indebted for valuable papers, subsequently read a paper in the churchyard on the Gordon Riots, in 1780, which found an echo in this out-of-the-way district.

He said the riots of June, 1780, instigated and led by Lord George Gordon, a younger son of the third Duke of Gordon, found a kind of echo in this out of the way village. Of the history of the riots themselves, most of you probably know—Dickens has given a good description of them in "Barnaby Rudge."

Two years before the outbreak, a Bill had been passed in Parliament to remove some of the disabilities imposed at the Reformation, upon those who clung to the ancient faith. This had irritated an extreme section of the community, and Lord George Gordon, as President of the Protestant Association, called a public meeting in London, in June, 1780, to protest. The meeting, which began peacefully, developed into a disgraceful riot, lasting nearly a week. The magistrates seemed

powerless or indifferent, and it was not until a strong body of military had been called out, and a number of persons killed, that the riot was finally stopped.

The amount of damage done was considerable, for two or three of the larger prisons had been broken open by the rioters, and over two thousand criminals let loose, who set about looting and destroying in all directions. The chief objects sought by the Gordon rioters were the little Catholic chapels, and the houses of the better class Roman Catholics. These were burnt and pillaged, and great hardships inflicted on their owners.

On June 5th, four of the insurgents made their way to Bath, coming from London with all possible speed, in a post-chaise, decorated with the rioters' emblems. Their object was the destruction of the then new catholic chapel, which had just been opened on St. James's Parade, and the capture of Dr. Charles Walmesley, the priest-in-charge. Dr. Walmesley was a man of some notoriety. He had been consulted by the Government on the new calendar, then recently adopted, when the change from the "old style" to the "new" was made. He had been elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1750 for his astronomical discoveries and calculations, and he was considered one of the first mathematicians of his day.

On reaching Bath, I regret to say, that these four insurgents succeeded in stirring up popular feeling much as they had in London, and a mob assembled which soon set to work and burnt the new chapel and demolished its contents, and then proceeded to Dr. Walmesley's house in Bell-tree Lane, which they also burnt, destroying registers, old diocesan papers, and a good mathematical and astronomical library, besides a large collection of manuscript works of Dr. Walmesley's of great interest and value. Dr. Walmesley himself just escaped by climbing a high wall at the back of his house.

While the house and chapel in Bath were burning themselves out, the rioters started to come here (Hinton Blewett) with the intention of calling at Camerton on their way—what really attracted them in this direction I will now relate—but I must first go back rather a long way.

Early in the reign of Queen Anne, that is, about 1703, there lived at East Harptree, a couple of miles away, a substantial farmer of the name of William James. On a certain day he went to the stock market at Salisbury, to buy beasts for his farm. He then hired a drover to drive his

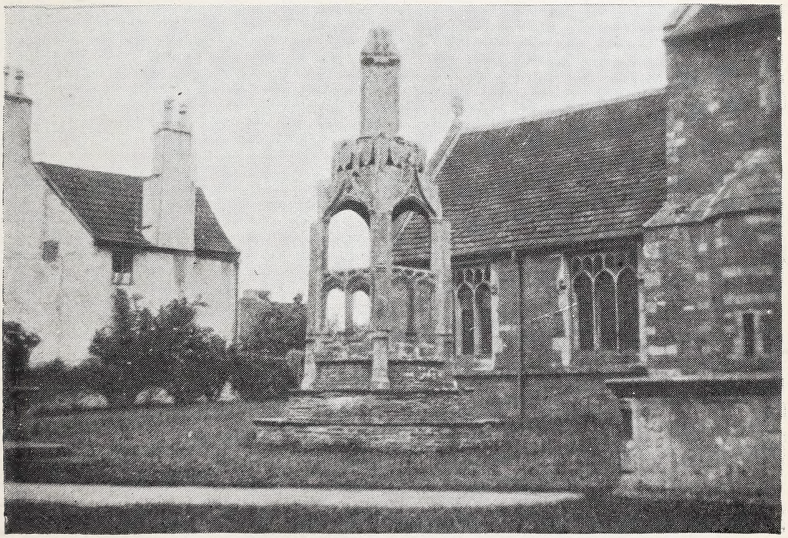
purchases back to East Harptree, a distance of some 40 miles. The drover did his work well, and as the master seems to have required another hand on his farm, he kept the man permanently.

It is this very remote circumstance that eventually attracted the Gordon rioters to Hinton Blewett!

One Sunday morning, Farmer James was making his rounds, and chanced to go into a barn, and there on his knees, using a well-worn book, he discovered his new farm-hand saying his prayers. Why, if he said his prayers on a Sunday morning, was he not at church? Explanations followed; the drover was a Catholic. I do not know how long afterwards it was, but in due time the master adopted his drover's faith, and brought up in it, his three children. Of his wife I have not been able to find a trace. Philip and Elizabeth died young, but the eldest grew to manhood, and married Hannah Beaumont, of Wells. Her father, Joseph Beaumont, was a man of substance, and besides his house at Wells, which bears his name to this day, he possessed a not inconsiderable farm and lands at Ston Easton, almost by the side of the parish church there. The marriage of young William James with Hannah Beaumont, resulted in four daughters, who eventually all made marriages of varying interest, but it is of the youngest child's—Anne's—that we are concerned here. In or about 1760—perhaps the marriage is in the church register—she married the Reverend John Brookes, the Rector of Hinton Blewett. For a Church of England clergyman to have taken a Popish wife at that date, must have been a rare occurrence, and it naturally led to complications.

I must make a digression now, to speak of another family, of the same social position as the James' of Harptree, and of the same faith. This was the Coombes family of Meadgate, in the parish of Camerton. They seem to have resided there for generations, and they had a private chapel in their house. Nothing of the place remains to-day, except the name Meadgate, for the site of the house is now occupied by a small inn. It is evident that the James' of Harptree and the Coombes' of Meadgate, were fast friends, bound together by a common faith in days when the penal laws still pressed heavily. When the Gordon Riots broke out, a priest, Dr. Coombes, who would have been known to many, for he had acted as Grand Vicar or quasi-bishop, in the western counties, was living with his sister at Meadgate. The mob, having destroyed the Catholic chapel at Bath, as I have said,

ST. MARY MAGDALENE, TORMARTON.



[*Photos, Miss Rodman.*

CROSS, IRON ACTON CHURCHYARD.

announced their intention of going both to Meadgate, where they meant to burn down Dr. Coombes' house, and then to Hinton Blewett, to punish the Rector for having a Popish wife.

Dr. Coombes received timely notice of the coming of the rioters, and the contents of his chapel being hid, and the household " dispersed into places of safety," the Grand Vicar himself took a six mile walk over to Hinton Blewett, to warn the Rector of his danger. The Reverend Mr. Brookes, with the help of his neighbours, hastily distributed his plate and furniture among the cottages in the parish, and then the cross that was on one of the gables of the church was taken down for fear it would increase the anger of the mob. The Rector's wife went into hiding, and the Rector conducted Dr. Coombes to a copse, known as Tucker's Wood, a quarter of a mile away, where he was to stay till the danger was over.

But Lord George Gordon's mob never reached even as far as Camerton, for after they had done their mischief in Bath, a strong body of military pursued the rioters and attacked and dispersed them. Later in the evening, when the failure of the expedition was known at Hinton Blewett, the Reverend Mr. Brookes went to the wood where Dr. Coombes lay hid, and whistled for him—the signal they had arranged—until the Grand Vicar came out of his hiding.

In 1804 Mr. Brookes having retired, sold the advowson of his living, and embraced his wife's religion. He died in May, 1824, and is buried with his wife in this churchyard.

Lord George Gordon was tried for his share in the riot, but having managed things cleverly as is the way of those who, instigate uprisings of this sort, the jury acquitted him of the charge of High Treason. Some years before his death he professed to become a Jew, in which faith he died in 1793.

The last village church visited was St. Mary the Virgin, Litton, where the Rector (the Rev. J. C. J. Pavey) gave an interesting description of the church. Twelve years ago they would have seen the old roof, but it was in such a condition when they removed the plaster that there was not a sound timber, and it was a matter of surprise that it had not collapsed under stress of weather. It was a very ancient church, and the architect who restored it some years ago was of the opinion that some time or other there was a larger church on the site, probably a Norman church. What appeared to be a Saxon font was still in the churchyard, and an old parishioner who

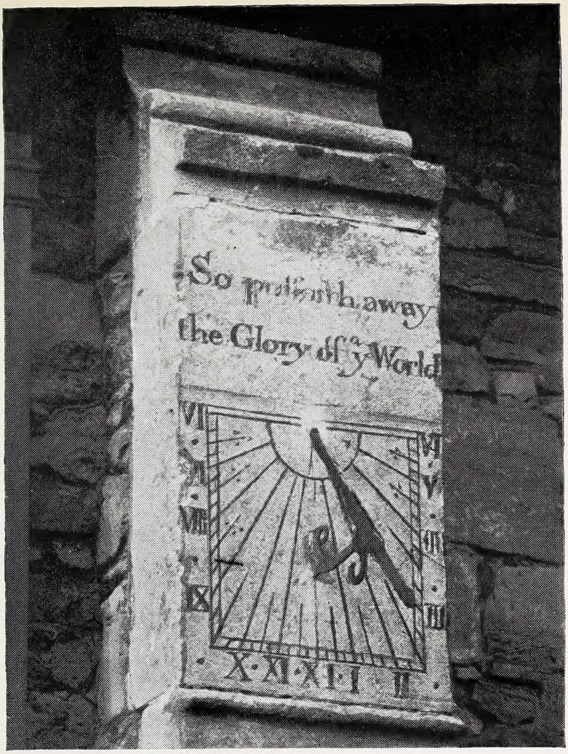
would now be over 100 if she had lived, told him she remembered seeing it in the church, as well as the Norman font. The window in the south-west corner was the oldest, and the inside stones were the original ones. The organ, which was now in the north aisle, was till recently in the little chapel, and it said much for the condition of the church at that time that it had to be covered with a tarpaulin. The church was in such a state that the people had to sit under big umbrellas. They had had many vandals in the parish, who destroyed the screen, for the repair of which there were items in the churchwardens' accounts. The pulpit was partly Jacobean and partly Elizabethan, and was quite clearly out of its original place. When they carried out the remainder of the restoration they wanted to re-seat the church, retaining, of course, the fine old benches, and the pulpit would then be placed in its proper position.

Mr. Pavey was thanked, on behalf of the Society, by Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, and the party drove to Chewton Mendip for tea, and then back to Bath, arriving about 20 minutes to seven.

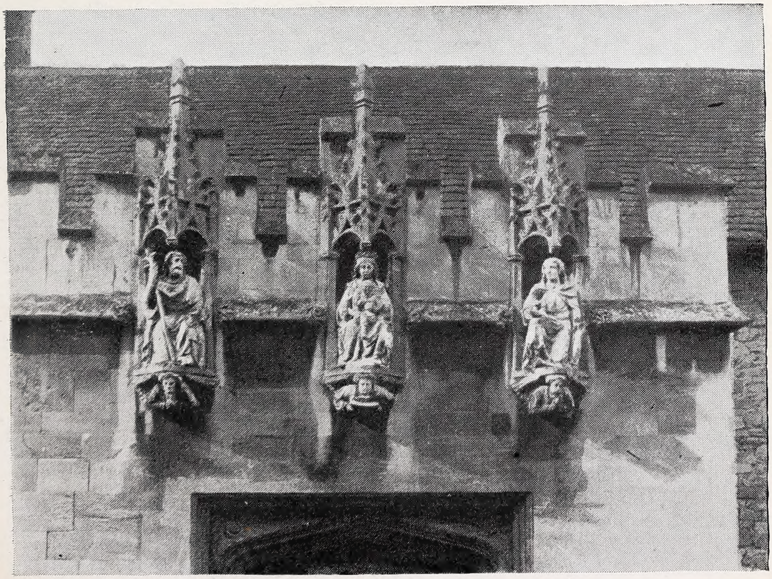
Tormarton, Iron Acton and Chipping Sodbury.
Tuesday, June 27th.

The third excursion of the season took place in unsettled weather, and after passing Tolldown rain descended, but not enough to spoil the journey. The only regret was that the fine views usually obtainable of the surrounding country were obscured by the heavy mist.

On reaching the Norman church of St. Mary Magdalene, Tormarton, the members were met by the Rev. Hugh Muller, a naval chaplain of over 11 years' service, who, after several months' active service and participation in some exciting incidents, has been ordered to rest, and is doing duty for the Vicar (the Rev. Vernon Holt), formerly Minor Canon of Bristol Cathedral, and Vicar of St. Nicholas, Bristol, who is now on service as an Army chaplain. Mr. Muller proved an excellent guide, and the visitors greatly appreciated his breezy account of the church and its chief features. He pointed out the fresh grave of a Tormarton soldier who died in England after being "gassed" at the Front, saying that the little village was playing its part, and out of the small number of available men, three had already given their lives. From the outside he drew attention to the Norman tower, and said that there was a suspicion that an Anglo-Saxon building preceded the



CHIPPING SODBURY CHURCH.



[Photos, Gerald J. Grey.

FIGURES, SOUTH PORCH, CHIPPING SODBURY CHURCH.

present church, and that its stone was worked into the base of the Norman tower. At the east end the visitors were shown the graves of the two wives of Lord William Somerset, uncle of the present Duke of Beaufort, who made the enormous rectory, adding so much that it was almost impossible for a modern rector to live in it. A wonderful beading was noted on the outer wall of the chancel, which, Mr. Muller said, he had not seen anywhere else in England. The nave was the oldest part of the church, being Norman, and the tower (the foundations and a third of its height) was also Norman. The south aisle and the chancel were 16th Century. A unique feature was the double chancel arch, a remarkably fine example with a double zig-zag moulding. A very unusual feature was the ambulatory, dating back to the 16th Century. There was then an altar in the south aisle, and it was usual when reading the Gospel at a side altar for the priest to look towards the high altar, and hence they had the ambulatory. There were only two others in Gloucestershire, one being at Sherston. A notable window was the Royal window, in the west wall, and there was interest in a modern window in the north wall that it was placed there by Mrs. Neville, widow of a rector, in order to keep the draught out.

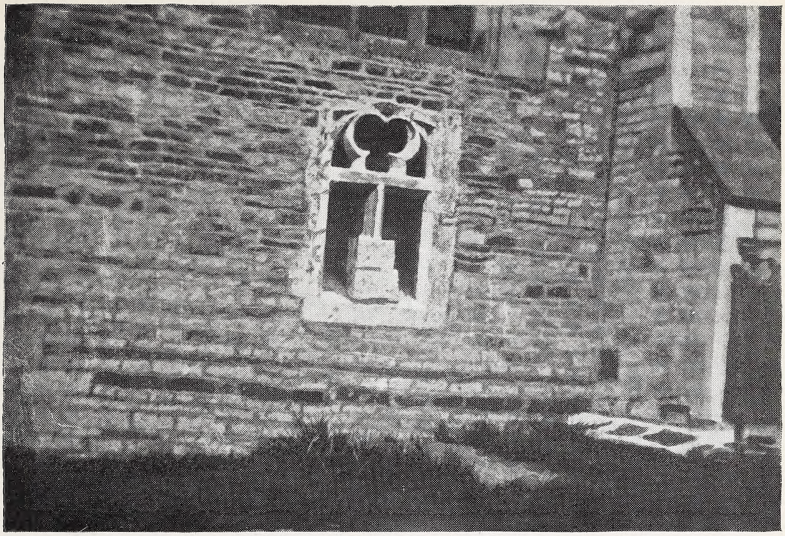
Mr. Muller drew attention to the fact that wherever the Somerset family had a church there was always a monument with a bloody hand, and then told why Mrs. Sarah Manning had left £10 to be distributed in bread for everybody who was hungry, except tradesmen. Lord William Somerset, in restoring the church, wanted to erect a west gallery for the rector's family only, which led Miss Manning to say she would not give a penny to the church, but leave the money to the poor.

Iron Acton was reached after a pleasant ride through Chipping Sodbury and Yate, and the members were heartily welcomed by the Rector (Canon Browne, rural dean). In an interesting address he said the church was built of local stone pennant, faced with Bath stone. The oldest portion was the bottom portion of the tower, and at the top of the columns inside were grotesque capitals of unusuai Interest. Inside the porch a Saxon stone had been worked in upside down, which was pointed out to him by the late Bishop of Bristol (Dr. G. F. Browne) the first time he entered the church. There must have been a church there for more than a thousand years. The church was re-built in 1390 by Robert Ponytz, who also erected the fine churchyard cross in memory of his

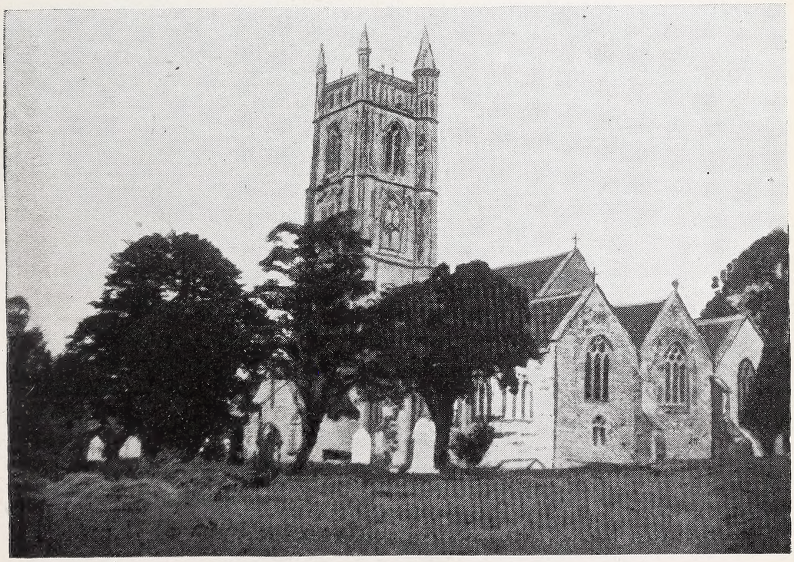
grandmother, Maud, through whom the estate passed from the Acton family to his. The cross, he was sorry to say, had gone, but there were only seven or eight instances in England of a cross with a canopy over it. It was sometimes called a preaching cross. He had used it as such himself, and had twice proclaimed the Sovereign from it, but he did not think it was intended as a preaching cross. The one open side did suggest that it was, but when the central shaft was perfect it would have been difficult for most people to get inside. Another interesting relic in the churchyard was the old font, which was turned out to make room for the monstrosity now in the church. It was clear from the churchwardens' accounts that there was an earlier font, but he had only the basin bought for it. The font itself must be buried, at any rate it was not in use, as in some parishes, as a drinking trough for cattle, because he had thoroughly searched the parish. When he came it was too late to put back the later font, for the weather had split it, so the only thing to do was to make a little garden round it. A notable feature of the interior was the number of ancient "linen-fold" bench ends, of which there were a great number, many of them absolutely complete. The chandalier was very beautiful, and dated from 1725—there was a similar one of the same date at Marshfield. The pulpit was a very fine specimen of Jacobean work. The canopy was perfect, not touched or renovated in any way. The pulpit was restored in 1878 by Jackson, R.A., who preferred to use absolutely new oak for the purpose. There was a great deal of old oak from the church in the barn, and Canon Browne's view was that it would have been more fitting to have used that oak of the same date in the restoration. Canon Browne also drew attention to the Poyntz chantry, probably a mortuary chapel, the rood loft, stairs, a Jacobean altar tomb, and a quaint chamber on the north side of the tower, used in former days as a lock-up for prisoners. He mentioned that the Poyntz family lived in the parish from 1300 to 1700, and that Captain Poyntz, who played cricket for Somerset, was a descendant of one of the branches of the family.

Afterwards some pre-Reformation remains in the Rectory grounds were inspected, and the visitors wandered through a wonderful old-world garden with a wealth of flowers, in which they would have liked to linger had the time-table only permitted.

The last church visited was St. John the Baptist, Chipping Sodbury, a market town of great antiquity, which once had



OLD WINDOW, PUBLOW CHURCH.



[Photos, Miss Rodman

ALL SAINTS', PUBLOW.

its Mayor, Aldermen, and Recorder. The Vicar (the Rev. W. H. P. Harvey) explained that the church was restored in 1869, and, fortunately, his predecessor, secured the services of Mr. Street, who, with Sir Gilbert Scott, were said to be the two architects of the day who really understood church restoration. The removal of the whitewash uncovered the original pre-Reformation colouring of the chancel arch. Mr. Street had no idea where the old pulpit was, but the workman, in removing the plaster from a nave arch, found the old steps. The frontal part of the present pulpit on the first pier of the north aisle was new, but the inside had the original carving. Very old residents had a knowledge that the pulpit was in that place, and recalled the existence of an old " three-decker " against that pier. There were two side chapels, one said to be dedicated to St. Catherine, the patron saint of cloth weavers—there was an ancient guild of cloth workers at Chipping Sodbury, but the industry had now died out—and the other to the Blessed Virgin Mary. A religious guild, dedicated to the Virgin, was established in 1443, whose principal objects seemed to have been to provide for two priests to pray for the good estate of the King, and after his death to pray for his soul, together with the souls of those who were and had been members of the guild. The lady chapel was added in the 15th Century, and the headmaster of the old Grammar School had made some interesting extracts from the records in the Town Hall, including the following bequest from the will of Helen Tayloure, date 1519. " Item to our Lady Gilde of Chipyn Sodbury my beste gowne." There was an old clock in the tower, which apparently never had a face visible from outside, but which always struck the hours.

A visit was paid to the garden of the Roman Catholic Presbytery to see the ancient Market Cross which at one time stood near the Portcullis Inn, and had been moved more than once. It dates from 1553. Tea was partaken of at the Portcullis Inn, following which the members returned to Bath.

The three clergy were warmly thanked for their kindness by Mr. M. H. Scott and Mr. Gerald Grey.

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Burnett, Compton Dando, Publow and Pensford.
Tuesday, July 18th.

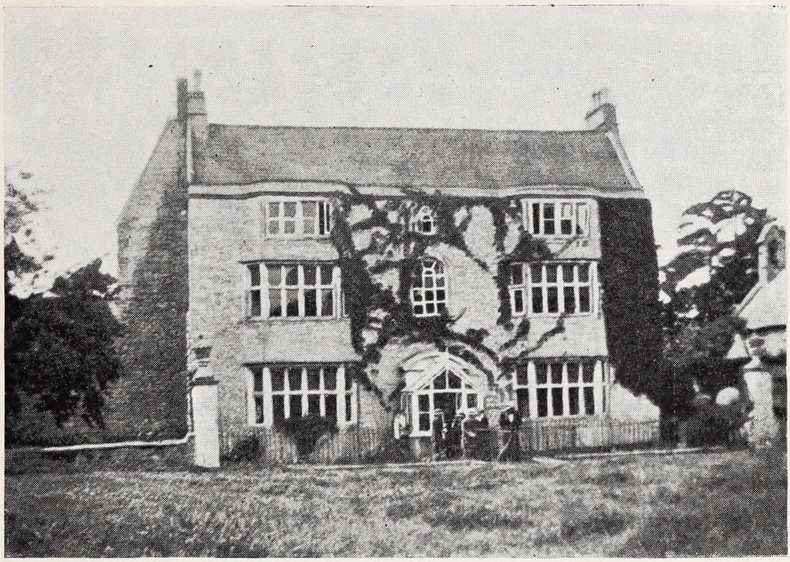
Glorious summer weather favoured the fourth excursion. In the unavoidable absence of the clergy at other engagements, Mr. M. H. Scott kindly described the points of interest at each church.

The tiny village of Burnett was first visited. The church of St. Michael is ancient, but very small. It has accommodation for only 60 persons, and was apparently built in the 13th Century for the needs of those living on the estate by the Abbots of Tewkesbury, to whom the manor belonged. It consists of a nave and chancel, divided by a pointed arch. On the north side of the chancel an ancient stone tablet (1650) is let into the wall, and on the east wall of the small chapel a most interesting and ancient brass to the memory of John Cutte, a lord of the Manor and Mayor of Bristol, and his wife. They are represented as kneeling at the altar dressed in Elizabethan style, and their sons and daughters are kneeling by their sides. The south porch contains a good inner doorway, with well-moulded head, ornamented on the upper part with Tudor design. Above the doorway is a very ancient and elaborate niche. The organ was originally used at Windsor. The Rector (the Rev. Eldred Morgan), who is also Vicar of Compton Dando, wrote that owing to a meeting he could not be present, but he was able to welcome the party at Compton Dando. An unexpected treat was a visit to the quaint old Manor house, close by, by the invitation of Mrs. Target. The Misses Target welcomed the Society, and the members inspected with great interest the quaint interior, the capacious pantry and cupboards, the old kitchen and cellars, the massive walls, the rambling passages and stairways, and admirable dining-room, with walls panelled in oak, old brass, beautiful china, and a notable old oak table from Muchelney Abbey, near Langport. The mansion is Elizabethan, and the eastern front is particularly fine. There is an interesting speculation as to whether the entrance was not once that side, and the depression still visible being the remains of the moat.

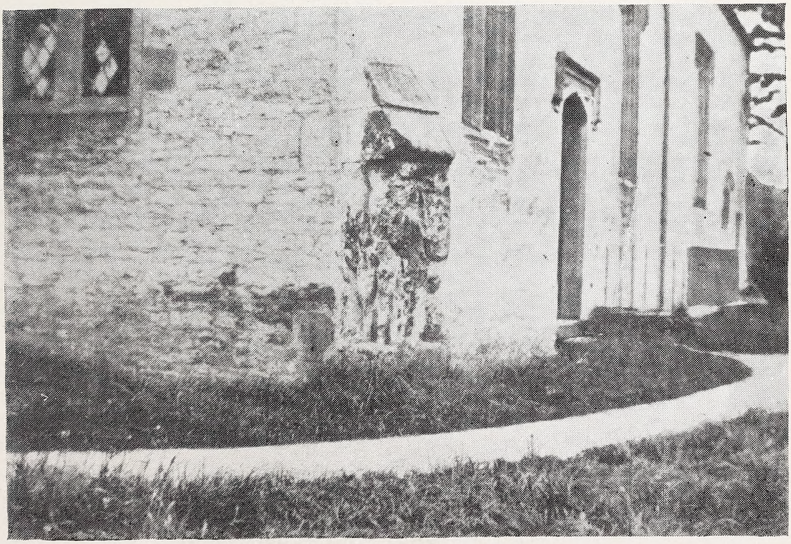
Mr. Kemeys-Tynte voiced the thanks of the visitors.

Compton Dando church is very much restored, both inside and out there are decided traces of the older building, which, though largely obscured, the experienced archæological eye was quick to perceive. Externally a good deal of the work was noticeable, particularly of the windows—there is a clerestory—and inside there is a very lofty tower arch. There is a fine wood roof to the church. The feature of the greatest interest is an old Roman altar built into the north buttress at the eastern end.

This altar, which is sadly defaced, owing to the rough treatment it has received, bears two figures, probably repre-



MANOR HOUSE, BURNETT.



[*Photos, Miss Rodman.*

ROMAN FIGURES, COMPTON DANDO CHURCH.

senting Hercules; the other, Apollo playing on his lyre. Apollo and Hercules seem to be here united on the same altar, the latter being represented as carrying a club or a cornucopia. The discovery of this altar, however, establishes the fact of the worship of Apollo in the neighbourhood of Bath, if not in Bath itself, and for that reason it is here introduced. The late Prebendary Scarth, in his work entitled "Aquæ Sulis," page 41, says: "I am inclined to think that previously to the extension of Christianity in Britain, and the building of a church at Compton Dando, a small temple or shrine had existed in the pretty secluded valley where the church now stands."

By permission of the Vicar (the Rev. H. J. Ker Thompson) the churches at Pensford and Publow were next visited. Anciently Pensford belonged to the Honour of Gloucester, and during the reign of King John became, with the adjoining parish of Publow, part of the estates of the celebrated family of St Loe, by which family it was held for many generations as part of the Honour of Gloucester. Roger de Sancto Laudo, according to Collinson, was owner of this and adjoining property in 1209, and he paid to King John in relief the sum of £100, two palfreys, for Newton and Publow. He was in arms with the barons against the King, and is said to have been imprisoned in one of the towers of his embattled and fortified mansion of Newton St. Loe.

The neat little church, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, the tower of which is the only remaining portion of the original building, dates from the 14th Century. The first edifice appears to have been erected as a small chantry for the repose of the souls of the departed. At the springing of the ribs of the roof under the tower is a curious carved head, with one of the eyes so portrayed as to convey the idea of its being half-closed, or perhaps, a vigorous wink. The rest of the church was re-built in 1869 at the expense of the Church Lands Charity in the parish, a faculty being obtained for the purpose. The pulpit is ancient, consisting of three panels of carved oak, possibly pew ends, as at Publow, or sides of an old chest. The font, which has an appearance of age, is octagonal in shape. The panels, with quartrefoil tracery, are ornamented with the rose device.

John Wesley is said to have occupied the pulpit in Pensford church on one occasion, and to have stood and preached under an elm tree during his visit in 1739.

Tea was served by Mr. George Smart, at the old village school, now used as a recreation room, and then a drive of half a mile brought the members to Publow.

All Saints', Publow, was the most interesting church of the whole itinerary, for, despite restoration, many of the original features have been preserved. All Saints' was in a lamentable state of repair ten years ago, and Sir Arthur Blomfield, A.R.A., reported that £1,400 was required to put it in a satisfactory condition. During the first year of the incumbency of the present vicar (the Rev. H. J. Ker Thompson) the church was restored according to Sir Arthur Blomfield's plans, and the work was in progress eight years ago, when the Bath Branch visited the church before. The members approached Publow from the short hill which separates the village from Pensford, and, at the first glimpse, saw the graceful tower, typical of Somerset churches, to good advantage. The church was probably built about the middle of the 14th Century, under the direction of the monks of Keynsham Abbey, and records show that Publow, with its extensive glebes, was under the jurisdiction of the Abbots of Keynsham until the dissolution of the monasteries. The church is a handsome and ancient edifice in the Perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, nave of six bays, side aisles, north and south porches, and a lofty, embattled western tower. The nave is divided from the side aisles by clustered columns, with moulded capitals, supporting deeply cut, pointed arches. A light wrought brass screen of delicate design, separates the chancel from the nave. The pulpit is of old carved oak, and is said to have been constructed from the old pew doors when the church was restored in 1860. The register dates from 1569. Two external features of special interest are a curious old window built into the wall at the eastern end of the church—it is supposed to be the remains of an older church on the same site—and on the north-east side a low doorway, the original use of which has not been discovered. The fine old tower is built in four stages, and is crowned with pinnacles and a spirelet. There are six bells, the inscription on some of which are very quaint. For instance, the treble (date 1776), has the following: "My treble voice makes hearts rejoice," the second (1633), "In Publow tower aloft I dwell, to call to Heaven, to warn from Hell," and the tenor, "Lo, when the Dead in silence lie, I tell the Quick they too must die."

A very pleasant run through some of the prettiest North Somerset scenery brought the members back to Bath at 6.30.

Wellow and Stoney Littleton. The concluding excursion took place on Monday, September 18th. Members proceeded by the 1.25 M.R. to Wellow. The day was very threatening in the morning, but on the whole the afternoon was bright and pleasant, and the pleasure of the excursion was in no way marred, but one slight shower was experienced.

The first visit was to the church of St. Julian, Wellow, where the Vicar, Prebendary Le Gendre Horton, met the party and gave an interesting account of the fine old church. The church was rebuilt in 1372, according to Collinson, by Sir Walter Hungerford, the first Speaker of the House of Commons, whose tomb was now in the Hungerford Chapel. They were all sorry, said the Vicar, that that chapel was now occupied by the organ, but when the chancel was rebuilt in 1890 the question was very carefully discussed by the architects, Messrs. Boddeley and Gardner. To have built an organ chamber on the other side of the chancel would have spoilt a very beautiful corner, and if they did the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings threatened to "raise England." The only alternative was to place the instrument in the Lady Chapel, which though consequently of no use, had not been damaged. The walls of the chapel were frescoed with representations of Jesus Christ with His Apostles, and the Chapel contained various memorials to the Hungerford family. The family owned property from Hungerford to Wellow, and the Walter Longs, of Rood Ashton, were said to have been the Hungerfords agents, a statement which received confirmation from the fact that for a good many years the Longs owned a good deal of land in the parish, and at the present time owned some of the coal rights. There was a very fine piscina which had been in the three chancels. The present chancel, the third, was built in 1890, in memory of his father, and replaced the second, which had only been in existence about 60 years, and was not at all in character with the building. The font was one of the Early English fonts, and the coffin at the bottom of the church, which was found a few feet below the surface when building the chancel, was said to be older than any part of the church. The church was dedicated to St. Julian, the patron saint of wayfarers, strangers and fishermen—his figure in stone with an oar in his hand, was in one of the niches, and the Saint was represented in the East Window with a church in his hand. His date was October 17, which was the day of Wellow fair. The church was in the Perpendicular style.

in order to re-sell at a profit, and within a short period the Hungerford Estate was broken up into fragments.

"Littleton was bought by one Robert Smith, who hailed, I believe, from Frome. He was born in 1654, and married Dorothy, daughter of Mr. Champneys, of Orchardleigh. In 1690 he purchased the adjoining manor and estate of Foxcote, between here and Radstock, which gave him a nice property —in all, perhaps 1,500 acres. He lived in his manor house at Littleton, which stood about 100 yards west of this spot, and I should think was probably built by him.

"His descendants, residing as the squires of the place, lasted for something less than 100 years. I wont trouble you with any details of their pedigree, which I worked out in a communication to 'Notes and Queries' a few years ago, but some references to the family are to be found in a diary kept by Thomas Smith, of Shaw, in Melksham, which has been published by the Wiltshire Archæological Society.

"Thomas Smith was somehow connected with the family here, and therefore rode over to attend the funeral of Mrs. Dorothy Smith, widow of Robert; when it took place at Foxcote, 19th December, 1721, and Thomas wrote that 'the solemnity was performed with little Show and Charge. She was a woman of a very close Penurious Temper, a very strict Presbyterian, and spent much time at her Devotions.'

"If any of you ever visit Foxcote Church, you will see there mural monuments to several of these Littleton Smiths, to whom is, I conceive, due the erection of that building [called 'the New Church' about that date], and one of the few examples in this district of the classical school of Sir Christopher Wren.

"Robert Smith's descendants were a short-lived race, and the last [died in the beginning of the year 1768] bequeathed this property to a relative of the same name, the owner of that very pretty place, Combe Hay, which is, no doubt, familiar to many of you.

"At the beginning of the last century, John Smith, of Combe Hay, was a well-known and popular figure in Bath and the County, Colonel of the Somerset Militia, and Provincial Grand Master of the Freemasons; he was related to the Lord Leigh, then recently deceased, whose will gave rise to a '*cause celebre*' in the annals of the law.

"Colonel Smith assumed the name of Leigh, in accord, as he supposed, with the provisions of the will, and, as he

Robert Smith I., of Frome,
bought Foxcote 1690, and Littleton 1700.
? the R. S. Sheriff of Somerset, 1708.
d. 9 May, 1714. bur. Foxcote M.I.
aet. 60.

= Dorothy, d. of Jo. Champneys, of Orchardleigh.
d. 17 Dec. 1721, aet. 70, bur. Foxcote M.I.

.... = Robert Smith, II.
d. 13 July, 1703,
bur. Frome M.I.

1st wife.
Ann, d. of
Thos. Bennet of
Steeple Ashton,
d. 24 Jan. 1724, aet.
38. bur. Foxcote M.I.
= 2nd son.
John Smith I.
of Littleton,
d. 26 June, 1748, aet. 68.
= 2nd wife.
....
bur. Foxcote M.I.

Dorothy,
d. 19 Sept.
1700. bur.
Frome.

Robert
Smith III.
LL.D.
d. 11 Apr.
1755, aet. 54.
= Mary,
Bennet,
heiress
of Combe Hay.

2nd wife.
Catherine
Houston.
= Nov. 1767
John Smith II.
of Littleton, jur. ux.
d. 9 Jan. 1768.
M.I. Frome Church, will proved 1768, left Littleton to "my nephew" John S.
= 1st wife Ann Smith, sole d. and h., d. 26 Aug., 1751, aet. 22.

John Smith III.
of Combe Hay,
M.P. for Bath 1768-1774,
succeeded to Littleton 1768.
d. 1775.
= Ann, d. of Viscount Tracy.

Rev. Robert Smith IV.
Rector of Foxcote and
Combe Hay.
d. 14 Feb., 1769, aet.
39. M.I. Foxcote.
= Ann,
d. of
....
d. 29
July,
1777
aet 51

Edward,
S. d. aet.
16 in
1757.
M.I.
Combe
Hay.

John Smith IV.
of Combe Hay, b. 1759. Lieut.-Col, Somerset
Militia, assumed name of
Leigh.
d. Aug. 1813.
= 1782
Mary, d. of Hon. George Shirley, of Ettington.

An infant
dau.
d. 5 July,
1758.

hoped, with the Leigh estates to be annexed to the name. But he was doomed to disappointment, the verdict of the Judges in Westminster Hall, in 1808, being pronounced against his claim to the estates. He died childless five years later, in 1813, and his extensive Somersetshire property became divided, this manor passing, not long afterwards, to my family.

"The 'mansion house' of Littleton was still standing as late as 1820. It is most clearly marked on a carefully-drawn map I find among my deeds, but is there stated as 'in the occupation of Ponting,' the farmer. It must have, therefore, disappeared between 1820 and (say) 1840. I asked my tenant, Mortimer, if none of the old people at Wellow had any recollections or stories about it, but he knew none such.

"When the Combe Hay branch had taken possession, and some of the material may have been used to repair this farm-house. The stable, I should say, was quite possibly part of the manorial buildings, and an elegant pair of stone vases, which I moved from here to Ammerdown, I imagine also came from the Manor House.

"I wish I could tell you where the Chapel of St. James stood, but nobody seems to know anything about it. The last fulling-mill on the river was abandoned about 1850, and, as you see, the 'hamlet' has dwindled away to a very small affair. Whether one of these days the Somerset Coal Field may spread its smoky operations in this direction and turn Littleton into a second Radstock, I cannot say, but I feel fairly confident it will not be in my time."

At the conclusion the members inspected the stable and the fine old barn, the old work in which was greatly appreciated.

After a pleasant walk of a mile through pretty lanes to Wellow Station, Bath was reached soon after 6 o'clock.

NOTES.

THE OLD GLASS AT WESTWOOD CHURCH, WILTS.

REV. ETHELBERT HORNE.

The Society visited Westwood Church in 1912 and hence the following note about the old glass it possesses, may be of interest.

The east window contains several pieces of late 15th century glass, the central light being devoted to a very perfect Crucifixion. In the lights on either side are angels holding shields on which are displayed the emblems of the Passion. The angels are eight in number, and I have numbered them from left to right. These angels are vested in white amices and albs, without "apparels," they have blue feather wings, and the hair is treated in a variety of ways, being sometimes long, and in other figures short and curly. The shields they hold are of white glass six inches in length by four and a half inches in width, the contained figure being made in the usual yellow stain so common in glass of the period.

In the left-hand light, the two upper angels hold (1) the whipping-post with two scourges hanging on it (2) the crown of thorns. The two angels beneath hold (3) a mocking head, (4) a pestle and mortar (?). In the right hand light the two upper angels are holding (5) the spear, and sponge on a pole, crossed together, (6) a lantern. The angels below hold (7) the three nails, (8) a hand issuing from an embroidered cuff, and holding a lock of hair.

Two windows in the south wall of the chancel, also contain fragments of old glass. In the one to the east of the priest's door are three shields. The upper left-hand one (9) is blank ; that to the right of it (10) contains the money bag,

grasped by a hand. Below on a single shield is (11) a ladder of five rungs, with the reed crossed through it. In the window to the west of the priest's door, is a single shield (10) containing the hand that gave the blow, issuing from an embroidered cuff.

In the west window of Leigh-on-Mendip church are many fragments of 15th century glass patched together with some violently coloured modern pieces. Among these fragments are circles of white glass bearing the instruments of the Passion so exactly similar in every detail to those at Westwood that they must have been produced by the same stencil. Of the eleven designs found at the latter church eight if not nine are in the Leigh window. The hand with the hair in its grasp (8) is not there, but the corresponding design is, (12) the hand that gave the blow, and is set the wrong way up. The curious figure like a pestle and mortar (4) is exactly the same in both windows, and it is somewhat difficult to know to what it refers. The clumsy and conventional crown of thorns (2) is also line for line the same in each representation. The figures 1, 5, 6, 7, 11 and perhaps 10, are also duplicated. There are only pieces of angels in the Leigh window, and hence these cannot be compared, but it is not difficult to conjecture that they too were made from the same stock pattern. Several of the Westwood angels have the arrangement of the pupils of their eyes so that they appear to squint. These heads, with eyes that are not straight may be found in numbers of churches where fragments of old glass have been preserved. Sometimes there is an embroidered collar round the neck and the hair is long and parted in the middle, or the amice is plain and the hair short and curly. But the pupils of the eyes are set close to the root of the nose in both designs, and their likeness suggests that they were made from a stencil or stock pattern of one particular firm.

We have in windows containing designs so exactly alike as are those at Westwood and Leigh-on-Mendip, an example of the way " commercialism " was gradually spoiling art even in the 15th century. The earlier glass is individualistic, as is the carving both in wood and stone. But it is not difficult to see the rise and influence of the " ecclesiastical firm," as we should call it to-day, which thus early began to satisfy church requirements with stock patterns both in vestments, glass and carving.

Visiting Leigh-on-Mendip church on October 19th with the view of taking a photograph of the window, I found it

securely covered with a thick curtain which cannot be removed until after the war. Had this not been so, comparative photographs of the two windows would have illustrated the above remarks.

Since writing the above, I have found a 14th century list of Emblems of the Passion. It is published by the Early English Text Society, 46, p. 184, at the end of a collection of *Legends of the Holy Rood.* The emblem that looks like a pestle and mortar, is in this list, and is described as the " vessel set there, full of vinegar " (St. John xix. 29), " mingled with myrrh " (St. Mark xv. 23). It would have been one of the ordinary Emblems of the Passion at about the date when the window was designed.

EARLY RECORDS OF THE PARISH OF CHARLCOMBE AND ITS PEOPLE.

THOS. S. BUSH.

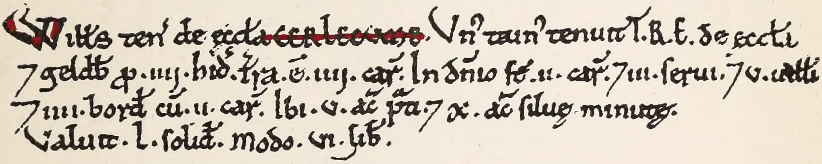
A meeting arranged by the Bath and District Branch was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution on Thursday, March 9th, 1916, to hear an address on the above subject by Mr. Thos. S. Bush. Among the seventeen slides put on the screen were the Manor House, two views of the church, south doorway, font and pulpit from sketches by S. H. Grimme, 1790, Deed with seal of John Huse, Lord of Charlcombe, 1243, Rectory and general view from sketches by J. W. Bush, 1835, Plan of Charlcombe showing Saxon boundary, Dale Cottage, the only remaining thatched house in the parish, and a pedigree of the holders of Charlcombe, 1260–1560.

Mr. Bush explained that he had considerably reduced his original notes so as to bring the address within a reasonable limit of time.

The following is not only an expansion of those notes but additional matter has been brought in, carrying the history forward some 100 years. Sundry items have been added which it was thought might prove of interest.

My first visit to Charlcombe was when I was christened in the Parish Church sometime in the last century. About twenty-four years back I took up my residence in the parish and from that time onwards seized every opportunity of

EXTRACT FROM DOMESDAY.


Wills ten' de eccla Cerlecume. Un' tain' tenuit T.R.E. de eccla 7 geldb p. iiij. hid. Tra. e. iiij. car. In dnio st. ii. car. 7 iii. serui. 7 v. uitti 7 iiii. bord cu. ii. car. Ibi. v. ac pta. 7 x. ac siluę minutę. Valuit. l. solid. modo. vi. lib.

The name in this entry, as in all others, is in the original run through with a red line, to draw attention to it, a practice equivalent to the modern underlining. The capital W is touched up with the same coloured red ink.

Translation.

William holds of the church Cerlecume. A Thane held it in the time of King Edward of the church, and it payed geld for 4 hides. There is land for four ploughs. In demesne are two ploughs and three slaves and five villeins and four cottagers. There are five acres of meadow and ten acres of coppice wood. It was worth fifty shillings, now six pounds.

gathering information about it and its people, many times visiting the British Museum, Record Office, Somerset House, and elsewhere. I may say that I was greatly assisted by Mr. W. K. Boyd not only in searching for records but also in transcribing them. Some of the wills I then copied have since been published by the Somerset Record Society, that society has also published the Bath Abbey Charters (some of which are in possession of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, others at Lincoln's Inn) Feet of Fines, covering many years, and some of the Registers of the Bishops of Bath and Wells, etc. From these, useful notes have been gathered. The Wells Chapter MSS. have provided further information.

Doubtless the Church of S. Mary, Charlcombe, with its Norman doorways, north and south, its interesting font and quaint tower, is very well known, but probably few could point out the extent of the parish. Fifteen years back Mr. Wilson kindly lent me the tithe map, published in 1839, having traced it I marked the boundary on it as given in the Saxon Charter, shewing without doubt that there has not been any change for fully 800 years.

The earliest records of this parish are amongst the Bath Abbey Charters, some of which are written in Saxon and are in the keeping of the Librarian of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, to whom I wrote asking permission to have them photographed. Unfortunately this could not be granted, as acting upon the recommendation of the Military Authorities, the MSS. had been placed in safety.

A few examples of early spelling : Ceorlecumbe, Cheorlecumba, Cerlecume, Cherlecombe, Cherlcombe.

Mr. Hubert Parry has kindly helped with the Saxon and other documents.

Translation of Saxon Charter No. 31 (B.A.C.). :—

De Cheorlecumba.

William King and William, Earl, greet Giso Bishop and Eadnoth, Staller, and Tofi, Sheriff, and all my thaynes in Somersetshire friendly. And I let you know that I have granted to Wulfwold Abbot the land at Charlcombe (Ceorlecumbæ) to St. Peter's Minster at Bath as fully and completely as it ever belonged to them. And I will not permit that any man take from him any of those things that I have granted to him.

God Keep You.

There is no date to this, but a note says it must be 1067. William, Earl, that is William FitzOsborn Earl of Hereford, left Viceroy by the Conqueror when he went to Normandy in 1067, and in the same year Eadnoth fell in battle against the son of Harold.

Item de Cheorlecumba.

I William King greet my Bishops and mine Earls and all my thanes in all the shire wherein Wulfwold Abbot hath land or men friendly. And I let you know that I grant him that he be worthy of his sac and his soc and tole and team and infangthef and grithbryce and forestal and hamsom as full and as free as any man best hath in my realm. And I let you know that I will that the land at Charlcombe (Ceorlecumbe) belong to St. Peters at Bath as full and as free as ever it best was in all things.

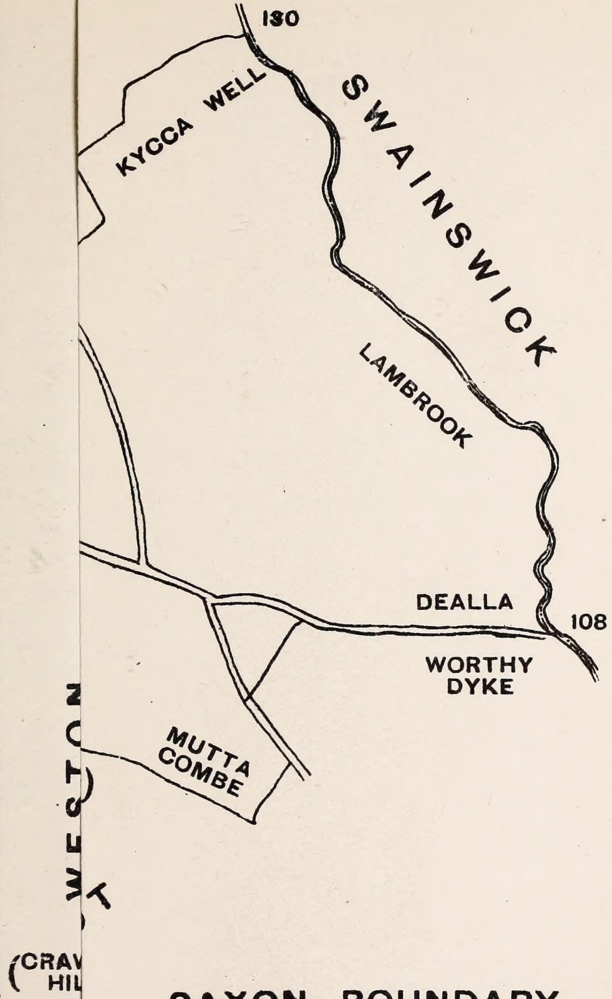
God Keep You.

Translation from Saxon Land Boundaries:—

These are the land boundaries of the four hides at Charlcombe (Ceorlecumbe). First from Ravens well to Ravens combe, from Ravens combe to Ælmund's hill, from Ælmund's hill to Hæccilege, from Hæcillege to Kycca well into Lambrook, along the brook to Dealla Worthy dyke, from Dealla Worthy dyke to Mutta combe, from Mutta combe to the White well, from White well to Beorwines chalk pit, from the chalk pit to the green hill, from the hill to Crow's hill, from Crow's hill to the old dyke along the dyke straight on east bitantes down on the edge of the down and back again to Ravens well.

Notes.—Ravens well is on high ground—about 740 feet above the sea—nearly due north of the church, at this spot is a good spring. Thence there is a drop to the combe in the direction of Woolley village (400 feet), then rising it traverses some distance south (460 feet), thence easterly to the brook (130 feet), which it follows to the parish of Walcot (108 feet), thence the two parishes run alongside with many zig-zags for possibly 1½ miles to the boundary of Weston (520 feet), from this point these two parishes run side by side for about half a mile to the dyke (740 feet), where our boundary takes a turn east, back to the starting point. These figures are given to shew the approximate variations in the elevations.

Whitewells Mead and Croniels shewn on the plan are taken from a map of Walcot A.D. 1740. Crawan Hill is from the Saxon boundary of Weston. Close to "Old Dyke" (at



SAXON BOUNDARY

PARISH OF CHARLCOMBE.

Area 571 Acres.

1916 T.S.B.

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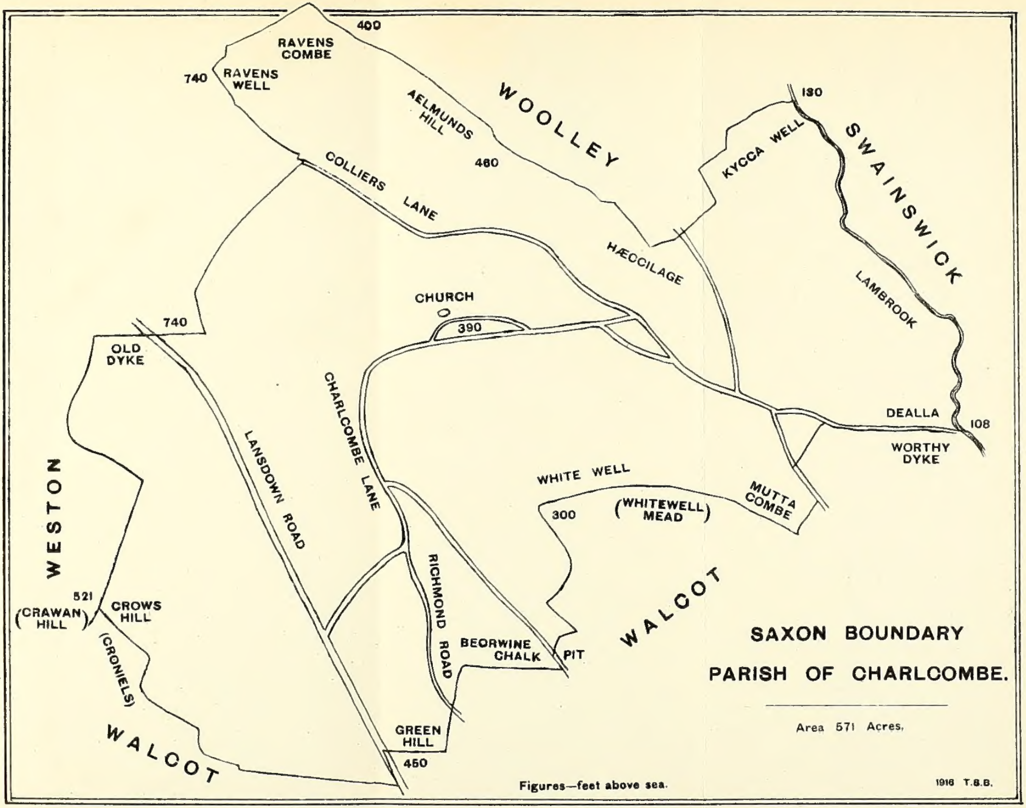


RAVENS COMBE
400
740
RAVENS WELL
AELMUNDS HILL
WOOLLEY
460
COLLIERS LANE
130
KYCCA WELL
SWAINSWICK
HÆCCILAGE
LAMBROOK
CHURCH
390
740
OLD DYKE
CHARLCOMBE LANE
LANSDOWN ROAD
DEALLA
108
WORTHY DYKE
WHITE WELL
MUTTA COMBE
300
(WHITEWELL MEAD)
WESTON
RICHMOND ROAD
WALCOT
521
(CRAWAN HILL)
CROWS HILL
(CRONIELS)
BEORWINE CHALK
PIT
SAXON BOUNDARY
PARISH OF CHARLCOMBE.
Area 571 Acres.
GREEN HILL
450
WALCOT
Figures—feet above sea.
1916 T.B.B.

the N.W. corner) is "Ditch garden" as shewn on the tithe map A.D. 1839. This, as well as several plots of land bordering the Lansdown road, were held by William Beckford, no doubt with the object of having as private a walk as possible from his residence in Lansdown Crescent to the tower, which he built. Under two roads are short tunnels, presumably cut by him.

Charter No. 33. Translation from Saxon :—

Here is stated in this writing the agreement that William Hoset made with Abbot Wulfwold and with Abbot Aelfsige and with all the Brotherhood of Bath concerning the land at Charlcombe. That is they grant him the land as their vassal and ten oxen and sixty sheep and a hundred acres of seed, on the agreement that he pay each year to the Minster two pounds for the rent, do military service for it, and pay King's geld. And this is done on the agreement that he be loyal and obedient to both the Abbots and all the brethren in all things. And if he break the promise that he has made to them let him be deprived of the land and be he accursed from Christ from St. Mary and from St. Peter, to whom the Minster is dedicated.

Charter No. 52. Dated 1123. Probably granted after the death of William Hosatus the father. It records the oath of fealty taken by the incoming tenant and suggest the cause of the differences referred to, First sartus and second purprestura.

"Sartus was the felling of trees and the preparation of the ground for tillage. Apparently William senior, had been practising this kind of robbery on the outskirts of the Abbot's wood, the son is allowed to retain some of it but not to increase it."

"Purprestura—the nuisance arising from trespass on enclosed land. This he restore."

William Hoset, the son, was a supporter of the Empress and the Earl of Gloucester, against King Stephen in 1138. He only figures once in history and is then in violent conflict with his liege lord, the Bishop. The matter came about this way. The followers of the Earl, whose principal stronghold was at Bristol, were anxious to obtain possession of the city of Bath, held by the Bishop, who was a supporter of the King. Geoffrey Talbot, William Hoset, and Gilbert de Lacy set out as a reconnoitering party, were surprised by some of the Bishop's people, who caught Talbot, while Hoset and Lacy made good their escape. Later on they returned with their friends and summoned the Bishop to

treat with them, promising him safe conduct. Out came the Bishop only to be told that if Talbot were not given up at once he (the Bishop) would hang. Eventually an exchange was effected, but the Bishop had a bad time in explaining matters to Stephen, who had very sound reasons for wishing to hang Talbot.

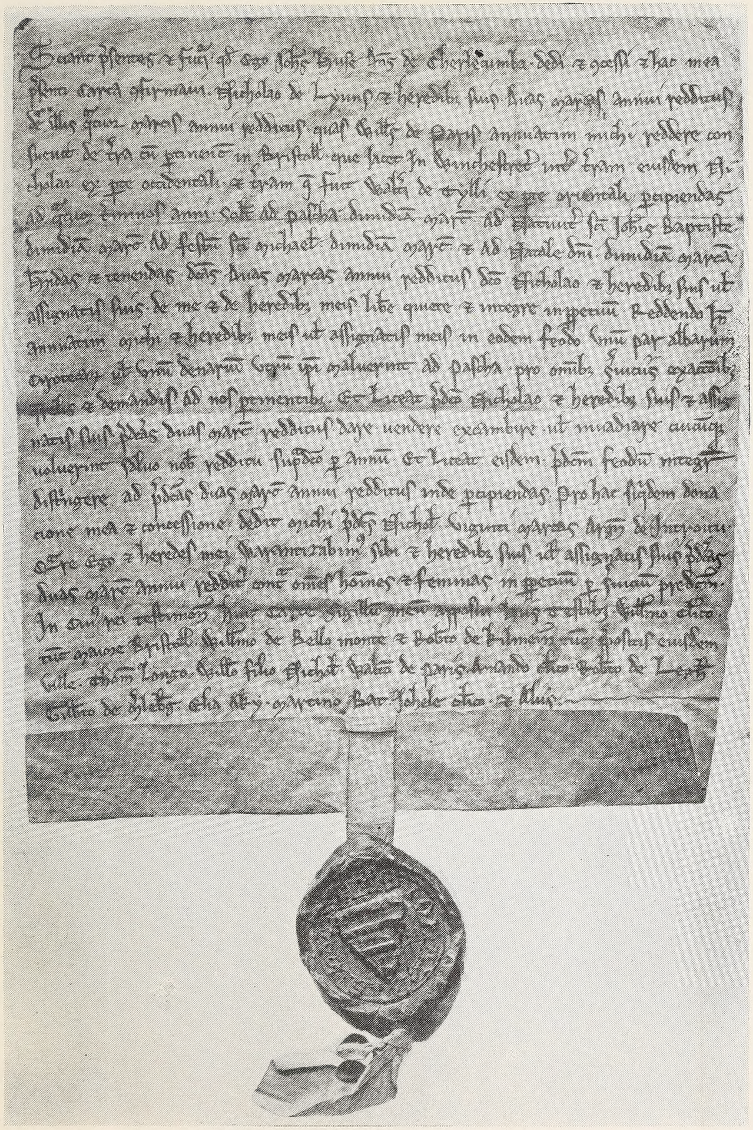
Charter No. 66 is a record by Robert, Bishop of Bath, that Asceline Horatus has confessed that the complaint of the monks concerning the non-delivery of 50 salmon, which was due from the land at Charlcombe, were true and reasonable. He further confesses that he held them back unjustly in defiance of an agreement formerly made, and commands his heirs in future to deliver the fish. He expressly states that they are to be delivered as rent and that the fish business is quite apart from the military service due.

"From which it would appear that between Nos. 33 and 66 there was at least one convention not in the chartulary, which converted two pounds rent into a rent of 50 salmon."

Wells MSS. p. 440. A Bull of Adrian IV. (Nicholas Brakspeare, Pope 1154 to his death 1159, the only Englishman who has occupied the Papal Chair) addressed to Robert, Bishop of Bath and his successors, being a protection for his church and the possessions thereof, namely the Abbey of St. Peter's, Bath, conferred by charter upon the Bishopric of Sumerset by King William II. and King Henry I. his brother, to transfer the see thither with its adjuncts in the city, towns and customs whereof the Abbey was seized at the accession of William II. Charlcombe (Cherlecumba) is named as one of the possessions. Dated the Lateran, by Roland cardinal priest and chancellor of Rome, May, 1156. A similar but more extended Bull is amongst the Bath Abbey Charters, No. 74.

Feet of Fines, Somerset Record Society, Vol. VI, p. 365. At Westminster in the quinzance of Hillary, 1232–3, between Jocelin, Bishop of Bath, claimant, and Thomas, Prior of Bath, tenant. . . . . The Prior acknowledged the right of the Bishop, and besides, he granted the services of Hugh de Cherlcumbe from his tenement in Cherlcumbe saving to the Prior a service of salmon and pepper. . . . . And the Bishop granted that if the said Hugh de Cherlcumbe default in his payment of the said salmon and pepper, the Prior may distrain on his goods and chattels until full payment is made.

Lincoln's Inn MS. No. 40. Thomas Prior quit claims John Hose, his heirs and assigns, of yearly rent of four pounds



[British Museum.

DEED WITH SEAL, A.D. 1243.

JOHANNES HUSE, LORD OF CHARLCOMBE.

of pepper and forty salmon for the Manor of Cheylecombe (about 1244).

When searching at the British Museum some years back I found a deed of John Hose, lord of Charlcombe. It relates to property in Bristol, but is of interest as the seal is attached. With permission of the authorities I had it photographed. The writing is as legible as when penned, and the seal good with the exception of the lettering. It is not dated, but as one of the witnesses (William Clark) signed as Mayor of Bristol, one had a clue and found that he was Mayor in 1243. The seal is ermine, three bars gules with a triangle and encircled by Johannes Huse.

Somerset Pleas. Somerset Record Society No. 383. Henry Huse of Cherlecumbe for his transgressions. . . Half a mark. A.D. 1225.

This Henry Hosat de Cherlecumbe was one of the witnesses to three Grants by Prior Robert (Prior 1198–1223).

No. 750. Concerning defaults. 1242–3. John Hose of Cherlecumbe did not come on the first day.

Lincoln's Inn MS., No. 169. Thomas Prior, etc., have received from Adam de Hanswei (?) lord of Cherlecumbe sixty shillings as relief of the land at Cherlecumbe, Bath, 18 Kal. Jue. 1261.

No. 213. An Inspiximus dated at Charlcombe, near Bath, the 4th of the ides of April (no year).

No. 354. A grant by W. (William Bytton or Button I.) Bishop of Bath and Wells 5th of the ides of April 1260.

Neither of the above refer to this parish.

William Button I. was Bishop of Bath and Wells 1248–1262. W. Button II. Bishop 1267–1274.

It will have been noticed that the Hosetts (the name is very variously spelt, in fact, bewilderingly so) commenced their connection with this parish in 1067 and continued it for nearly 200 years. Then came a change to the Button family; how this change came about there is no evidence to shew. On referring to No. 169 it will be seen that there is a ? against Adam de Hawesei's name, the Editor evidently considered the name incorrect. There is no doubt it should be Adam de Button. The Button (variously spelt) family and their descendants held Charlcombe of the Priors of Bath from about 1261, for some 350 years. The Rev. Ellacombe's "History

of Bitton," published 1881, gives a full account of the family and the various properties they held.

In 1273–4, there was an inquisition—Hundred Rolls, Vol. II, p. 133, by command of the King. . . . . Adam de Buton hold one tything in Charlcombe, which used to do suit at the Foreign Hundred Court of La Berton, and they were withdrawn by Jocelin formerly Bishop of Bath (1205–42), and this 25 years elapses to the damage of the King, 20s. by the year, if the King had the Hundred Courte in his hand.

Following Adam de Button was his son John. In Bishop Drokensford's Register are these three records :—

1st on p. 53. We are brought in touch with the church for the first time. " Richard Bavent, Rector of Charlcombe, granted one year's study. 1312.

2nd, p. 89. Agreement by Indenture, John de Button withdraws at own cost all pleas at King's Court against Bishop touching Church of Charlcombe. Bishop will never trouble J. de B. about this plea. June 5th, 1312.

3rd, pp. 71–2. Sir John Bytton's will. Large bequests to the new Lady Chapel at Keynsham Abbey, with £20 for his exequies when buried therein. . . . at Hanham, 1313.

Notes in Margin. 1st, the will proved at Pucklechurch, before Bishop de Drokensford, 1314, the Bishop holding a court of probate in person and out of his own diocese.

John, son of Testator, proved his full age before the Bishop, the Archdeacon of Wells, and many Knights, at Pucklechurch, May 16th, 1314.

The Bishop acting as guardian of the last-named John de Button instituted Nich de Lovente to Charlcombe Church, May, 1314.

Lincoln's Inn MS., p. 120. Receipt by Robert, Prior, etc., to John de Button, son and heir of Sir John de Button, Knt., for the sum of sixty shillings in the name of a relief from the manor of Cherlecumbe, to the Church of Bath, anciently due and accustomed, 1315.

Feet of Fines, Vol. xii., p. 57, A.D. 1316. At Westminster, between John, son of John de Button, querent, and William de Burne and Richard de Cumpton, deforciants, for two messuages and four carucutes of land in Hinton Bluet and Cherlecumbe juxta Bath, and for the advowson of the churches of Hinton Bluet and Charlcumbe . . . . . granted to John, if he die without issue, then to his brother Thomas.

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Button Family and Descendents who held Charlcombe from about 1260 to 1615, thence the Paston's and Bedingfield's.

Compiled by Thos. S. Bush. January, 1916.

Sir Adam de Button, Knt. =
Hundred Roll 1273-4
Signs 1263-80.

Sir John de Button, Knt. =
Indenture June 1312.
Will proved 1314.
To be buried in New Chapel
Keynsham Abbey.

Sir John de Button, Knt. = Hawise de Furneux.
Proved his age May 1314.
L.I.M.S.S p. 120, 1315.
Feet of Fines 1315-16.
No record of death.

Matthew de Button = Constantine de Kingstone
Inq. 1375, re killing deer in Kingswood Forest.
No record of death.

Beatrice = George Strode.

Elizabeth = Philip Hampton

Maud = 1st Wm. de la More, ob. 1349. = 2nd Simon Bassett.

2nd Sir John Devereux = Johanna Hurst, No issue. = Sir John de Button, Knt., ob. 1382. = 1st Margery, daur. of William de la More and Maud (Button)

Philip

Margery m. Sir John de Button

Cecilia = Nicholas de Berkely, of Dursley, she ob. 16 Aug. 1393. Inq. 1385. 3 Inqs. P.M. 1393.

Katherine Button, sole heiress to her father. = Thomas Rugge or Rigge, Assize Roll, 1396. Feet of Fines, 1399-1400.

Richard

1st Robert Greyndour, ob. 19 Nov., 1443, Inq. 5 April, 1444. = Johanne Rugge, christened at Charlcombe. C. Inq. 1485. Ob. 17 June, 1485. Will proved July 1485. To be buried in my Chapel of Parish Church of Newlande. = 2nd Sir John Barre of Rotherwas, b. 31 Jan., 1412-13 co. Hereford. C. Inq. 1483. Ob. 14 Jan. 1482-3. No issue. = Elizabeth, d. of Sir Thos. Cornewall.

John

1st Reginald West, Lord de la Warre, ob. 1451, no issue = Elisabeth, heir to her father. ob. 1452, same day as her child.
2nd Earl of Worcester = ob. 1470.

A child born and died same day, 1 Sept., 1452.

Isabella Barre, aged 30 in 1483. = 1st Humphrey Stafford, Earl of Devon. = 2nd Thomas Bourgchier, son of Earl of Essex.

Elisabeth, aged 16. ob. 28 July 1493. Will proved 26 Aug. 1493. Ch. Inq. 1494. John s. and heir aged 13 in 1488. burd. at Stanton Drewe. = John Chokke, 30 in 1483. ob. 1488. Will 1488. Ch. Inq. 1488.

Lucy, aged 15. ob. 24 Jan. 1499-1500. Ch. Inq 1500. No issue. Charlcombe, went to her sister Joan. = 1st Thomas Chokke, junior. = 2nd John ap Morgan. = 3rd Morgan ap Thomas, ob. before his wife.

A Joan, aged 14. ob. 21 Aug. 1506. Inq. 1507.

A
Joan (Hampton) = 1st Thomas Chokke, Senior.
Aged 14 in 1485.
ob. 21 Aug., 1506.
Ch. Inq'ns, 1507, &c.

Thomas Chokke, Senior: Will prov. 12 Sept., 1487, ob. 2 Aug., 1487. To be buried in Church of Stanton Drewe. No issue. Ch. Inq., 1487.

= 2nd Sir Thomas, son of Sir John Newton, Knt. (ob. 26 Jan., 1487-8) and Isabella, d. of Thos. de Cheddre (ob. 22 May, 1498). His Will prov. 3 Jan., 1496-7. To be buried in Wyke Chapel, Yatton Church.

Sir Thomas Newton, Knt. = Margaret, daur. of Sir Edmond Gorges by his 1st wife, Lady Ann Howard.
heir to his mother Joan.
ob. 30 Jan. 1518-19.
Will 22 Jan. 1518-19.
Ch. Inq. Oct. 1522.

Sir John Newton, Knt. = Margaret, daur. of Sir Anthony Poyntz of Iron Acton, co. Glouc. survived her husband, living at Westharptree.
of Barrs Court, co. Glouc.
heir to brother Thomas
Charters 6363, 6544.
ob. 31 *March*, 1568. On monument 10 *April*.
Ch. and Esch. Inq. 11 June, 1568.
Charlcombe held of the Mayor, &c., of Bath.

= 3rd Sir Edmond Gorges, Knt. = 1st Lady Ann Howard.
Lord of Wraxhall,
ob. 30 April, 1511.
= Jane (Copston) widow of Sir Morgan Kydwelly.

Walter

Edward

Margaret married Sir Thomas Newton, Knt.

Sir Thomas Paston = Agnes

Thomas Newton,
aged 10 in 1518-19.
ob. 25 August, 1522.

Sir Henry Newton, Knt., = Katherine, married 1 Aug., 1578. Survived her husband.
of Barrs Court.
ob. 2 May, 1599,
buried in Bitton Church 4 May. Will prov. 11 June, 1599. Ch. Inq. 1599.

Edward Paston, = Margaret, daur. of Sir Thomas Berney. Exix. under husband's will.
of Appleton, co. Norfolk.
Will prov. 6 May, 1630.

Frances Strangway (widow), Ann, Elizabeth, these 3 daurs. and his widow Katherine living at East Hartrey, 1599.

Theodore Newton = Penelope
born 1st April, bap. at Bitton 7 April, 1584.
Mortgaged Charlcombe to Edward Paston, sen.
ob. at Bristol 29 June, 1630.
Court of Wards Inq. 27 Aug., 1630.

Edward Paston = Frances, d. of Sir John Sydenham, Knt., of Brimpton, co Somt. ob. 15 Feb., 1665, bur. in Appleton Church.
ob. 18 Feb. 1654
No will.

Margaret, only child. = Sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxborow (alias Bechall) Norfolk.
ob. 14 January, 1702.
Will prov. 13 May, 1703.
Charlcombe not mentioned. Monument in Oxborow Church.

Sir Henry Bedingfield: ob. 24 Feb. 1684-5, æt 70. Will prov. 9 March, 1684-5. E.C.C. Norwich. Monument in Oxborow Church.

This John de Button married Hawisia de Furneaux, and had issue one son, Matthew, and three daughters, Beatrice, Elizabeth, and Maud. These three ladies will receive attention later on. Matthew married Constantine de Kingston. In 1375 there was an enquiry about the killing of deer in the Royal Forest of Kingswood. Matthew acknowledged his transgressions, after this nothing is known of him. He left one son, John, who first married Margery, daughter of William de la More, and his wife, Maud (Button) issue one child, Katherine, and secondly Johanna Hurst, by whom there was no issue. She, Johanna, secondly married Sir John Devereux, Knt. John Button died in 1382, leaving his daughter, Katherine, sole heiress. She married Thomas Rugge (Rygge or Rigge), this must have been before 1396, as shown by an Assize Roll, No. 299, M.12 (3). . . . Thomas Rigge and Katherine his wife arraigned against John Devereux, chivaler, and Joan his wife, touching tenements in Button, etc. It is a long roll, but as it does not relate to our parish we will only give this short extract, in fact, its a brief pedigree of the Button's:—Thomas, kinswoman of Katherine, viz., brother of John, father of Matthew, father of John, father of Katherine, whose heir she is . . . . . Afterwards John died in the lifetime of his brother Thomas, afterwards this Thomas died without issue. The Roll is dated Easter Term, 19 Rich. II., 1396.

No clue has come to light of the parents of this Thomas Rugge. In the Wells Chapter MS., p. 299, 20th August, 1387, a Robert Rygge is described as doctor of divinity, Chancellor of Oxford, Canon of Wells, and Prebendary of Doulket. Later he was appointed Chanceller of Exeter Cathedral. I found his will at Somerset House (21st March) dated 24th March, 1409–10, proved 18th April, 1410. He leaves to his sister, Alice, 26s. 8d., and to every son and daughter of her's 6s. 8d. This, of course, does not help us.

Feet of Fines, Vol. xxii., p. 157. At Westminster in the morrow of St. John Baptist, 1399–1400 between Thomas Rigge and Katherine his wife, querents, and John Devereux, chivaler, and Joan his wife, deforciants; for the Manors of Charlcombe and Norton Malreward (and land in Co. Gloucester), John and Joan acknowledged the right of Katherine and quit-claimed for themselves and the heirs of Joan to Thomas and Katherine. For this Thomas and Katherine gave John and Joan one hundred marcs of silver.

Then follows another document. At Westminster in the octave of St. John Baptist, between John Devereux, Knt.,

and Joan his wife querents; and Thomas Rigge and Katherine his wife, deforciants; for the Manors of Charlcombe and Norton Malreward. John and Joan acknowledged the right of Katherine. For this Thomas and Katherine granted the same for themselves and the heirs of Katherine to John and Joan for the life of Joan for an annual rent of twenty-four marcs of silver paid by six marcs, quarterly, with power to distrain and retain, and after the death of Joan the payment to cease.

In Bishop Bowell's Register, under date 23rd April, 1403, Sir John Feckford was instituted to the church of Charlcombe to which he was presented by Thomas Rygge, "Domicellus." Apparently a title given to the younger sons of noblemen, the superior and titular servants of great monasteries, and generally the name for a small esquire and not necessarily a resident, although probably he was, as his daughter was christened in the parish church. He also presented in 1411, 1413–14 and 1423, and is there described as "esquire."

Joan, the only child of Thomas and Katherine Rugge, first married Robert Greyndour, who died in 1443, leaving issue, a daughter, Elizabeth, who first married Reginald West, Lord de la Warre, who died in 1451, leaving no issue. She secondly married John Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester, and had issue one child, who died on the day of his birth, 1st September, 1452, and on the same day as his mother.

A Ch. Inq., taken at Yeulchestre, Co. Somerset, on 5th April, 1444, records that Robert Greyndour held on the day on which he died, as in right of Joan (Rugg), late his wife, yet living, and of the inheritance of the said Joan, the Manor of Charlcombe, together with the advowson of the church of the Blessed Mary of the same Manor. Which said Manor is worth 5 mark in all issues beyond reprises, and it is held of the Bishop of Bath, but by what services the jurors do not know. And there are in the same manor of Charlcombe a certain site of the Manor which is worth nothing by the year; one hall which is worth 20d. by the year, one chamber which is worth 20d. by the year, one kitchen which is worth 12d. by the year, one barn worth 40d. by the year, one ox-house worth 40d. by the year, 100 acres of land each of which is worth 4d. by the year, 12 acres of meadow, each acre of which is worth 12d. by the year, 20 acres of pasture, each acre of which is worth 2d. by the year, and rents 1354d. annually to be paid by the hands of divers tenants at will. And the church there is worth beyond charges, 4 marks. The said Robert Greyndour

died 19th November, 22 Henry VI. (1443), and Elizabeth, wife of Reginald West, Knt., Lord de la Warre, his daughter, is next heir of the said Robert Greyndour.

Robert Greyndour's widow Joan (Rugge) secondly married John Barre, of Rotherwas, Co. Hereford. This must have been before December, 1448, as at that date John and Joan jointly presented Ludov Davy to the church of Charlcombe. John Barre was the son of Sir Thomas and Alice, daughter of the 4th Lord Talbot. He, John, first married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Cornewall, and had issue, Elizabeth, who does not concern us.

An Inq. P.M., 1st May 11 Henry VI. (1433) is of interest as it not only gives a short pedigree of the Barre family, but also shows how the age of a person was ascertained in those days. "Proof of age of John Barre, son of Thomas Barre, Knt., son of Thomas Barre, Chevaler, Kinsman, and heir of the said Thomas, father of Thomas, which said Thomas, father of Thomas, held in chief of Henry, late King of England, father of the King that now is. Taken at Hereford at the above date."

John Brugge says that John Barre was born at Rotherwas, Co. Hereford, 31st January 14 Henry IV. (1412–13), and was baptized in the church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Rotherwas and that the same John Barre was 21 years of age and more on the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary last past (3rd February) before the taking of this proof, he remembers this because he was then retained with John Talbot, Knt., Lord de Talbot, which said John Talbot was then godfather of the same John Barre.

Thomas Brugge gives similar evidence, and says he remembers this because he was then in the service of the Lord Bishop of Hereford, and one of his esquires, which said Bishop was then at Rotherwas and there baptized the said John Barre.

John de Eye and William de Hantyton also give similar evidence, and say they remember this because they came riding with Agnes, Lady de Webbeley, from the village of Webbeley, to the said vill of Rotherwas, to the baptism of the said John Barre, and that the said Agnes was the godmother of the same John Barre, and likewise at that time they saw the walls of the said church within the same church adorned with red cloths of worsted. Two other witnesses gave evidence.

A. Ch. Inq. P.M., taken at Gloucester, 7th April, 23 Edward IV., after the death of John Barre, Knt., mentions a charter dated 20 January, 1456–7, confirming the gift of a 4th part of Teynton and Kylcot to John Barre and Joan his wife, failing issue the 4th part to Isabella, wife of Humphrey Stafford, his daughter, and her issue. The inquisition refers to manors, lands, etc., in Button, Siston, etc., all in Co. Gloucester, and at the end states. And of such estates the said John Barre died seized after whose death the said Joan held herself in the same messuages, lands, etc., and they (the Jurors) say that John Barre died 14th January, 22 Edward IV. (1482–3), and that Isabella, Countess of Devon, late the wife of Humphrey Stafford, late Earl of Devon, now the wife of Thomas Bourgchier, Knt., son of Henry, Earl of Essex, is the daughter and next heir of the said John Barre, Knt., and is thirty years of age and more.

This is only a brief extract of the above Inquisition as it does not refer to our parish.

Joan did not long survive her second husband. Her will, dated 3rd February, 1484, and proved 22nd July, 1485 (16 Logge) is an extremely lengthy document. Ellacombe in "History of Bitton" gives a considerable portion of it. We will only give a few items:—My body to be buried in the parish chirch of Newlonde in my chapel of Saint John the Baptist and Saint Nicholas with my husbonde Robert Greyndore (Joan obtained Letters Patent to found this Chantry Chapel, in memory of her first husband). I bequethe to the Vicar of the same chirche . . . . to pray for my soule Dame Jane Barre, and for myne husbondes soule Robert Greyndore and Sir John Barre, my daughter Elizabeth sumtyme Countess of Worcester, my fader and mother Thomas Rigge and Katherine. Item, I bequethe to the Church of St. Kateryn at Bytton in the parishe chirche there . . . . for myne annceturs be buried there. Item, I bequethe to the p'ish chirche of Charlecombe wher I was cristenyd a cross of copis and gilt to be borne in the procession, the which is now in my chapell at Clorewall. Item, I bequethe to the prist that syngith at Charleton fast by Bath iijs. iiijd.

Ch. Inq. P.M. 2 Richard III., taken at Bedmynster (Bristol), 5th July, 1485, after the death of Joan Barre, widow, by the oath of John Bodyfaunt, esquire (etc.), who say that the said Joan died seized in her demesne as of fee of the manor of Charlecombe which she held of the Prior of Bath (services not known). It is worth by the year clear 6 marks. She

also died seized of the Manors of Norton Maurewarde in Co. Dorset (should be Somerset), the Manor of Pury Furnyaux, in the said county, etc. The said Joan died on the 17th June in the second year (1485), and Robert Basset, aged 50 years and more. Lucy, the wife of Thomas Chokke, the younger, esquire, aged fifteen years on the 20th day of May last, Joan the wife of Thomas Chokke, the elder, esquire, aged fourteen years on the second day of June last, Elizabeth the wife of John Chokke, esquire, aged sixteen and more, and William Strode, esquire, aged forty years and more are her heirs.

The writ is dated 19th June in the 2nd year. Mr. W. K. Boyd in sending me a copy of the Inquisition says there is apparently an error 2nd for 3rd year.

Earlier in these notes it was stated that further reference would be made to the three daughters of Sir John de Button—Beatrice, Maud and Elizabeth. Beatrice married George Strode. Their great-grandson, William, was one heir named in the Inquisition, he died in 1500. Maud first married William de la More, of Oldland, Bitton. He died in 1340 leaving issue one son, John, who died in 1349, and two daughters, Cecilia and Margaret. The former married Nicholas de Berkeley, of Dursley.

There are four Inquisitions, one held at Dursley, 9 Rich. II. (1385) before Cecilia's death. It appears that she held a moiety of Button, otherwise Holdelond (Oldland), without the licence of the King. The second Inq. P.M., held at Newport, Co. Glouc., before Robert Whyttyngton, Escheater, and others, 17 Rich. II. (1393) refers to the former Inquisition, and states that after a fine paid to the King, Cecilia was pardoned and remained seized of the estate. The third Inquisition, taken at Wermenster, 13th November, 1393, refers to property in Co. Wilts. It says that Cecilia died on Saturday the morrow of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary, falling on the 16th August last past. John Botiller (of Shentyngfeld) is her heir, *i.e.*, son of Alice, sister of William, father of the said Cecilia. The fourth Inquisition, taken at Wells, Co. Somerset, 9th December, 1393, Cecilia held for life lands, etc., in Congresbury and Yatton, Co. Somerset, of Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, after her death the lands, etc., to remain to Edmund Bassett for life.

The second daughter, Margery, of William de la More, married, as previously noted, Sir John de Button. Maud married secondly Sir Simon Basset, their great-grandson, Robert Basset, of Uley, Co. Gloucester, was another heir. Of

these two heirs of Joan Barre no further references will be made. The last of the three sisters, Elizabeth, married Philip Hampton, their great-grandson, John, had three daughters, Elizabeth, Lucy, and Joan, who married respectively John Chokke, Thomas Chokke, junior, and Thomas Chokke, senior, these being the other three heirs of Joan. John and Thomas, senior, and possibly Thomas, junior, were the sons of Sir Richard Chokke by his first wife, Joan, daughter of William Pavey. Sir Richard in his will (21 Logge) 3rd July, 1483, says " Also I woll that Dame Margaret (his second wife) have the kepyng rule and guvernance of everich of the daughters of John, Hampton, squyr, and of all their londes and tenementes in Estharptre unto the tyme they come to their full age and to fynde them and to reward them by her discrecion at the tyme of their mariages. And I woll that the said Chokke my son have the third parte of all the same londes and tenementes immediately after my said decesse if any of the said daughters be maried unto the same Thomas."

Sir Richard Chokke died 5th July, 1483. The Inq. P.M., 8th November, 1483, states that he held the Manors of Stanton Drew and Long Ashton. John, his son, was declared his heir and of the age of 30 years or more.

This John married, as previously stated, Elizabeth Hampton. He in his will (11 Milles) proved 9th July, 1488, desires to be buried at Stanton Drewe near his mother (Joan). A Ch. Inq. P.M. 28th October, 1488, shews that he held Stanton Drewe and Long Ashton and other property, and that he died 17th May, 1488. John, his son, being his heir and of the age of 18 years. His wife, Elizabeth, survived him. Her will (28 Dogget) proved 26th August, 1493: " My body to be laide besides my husbond within the parish church of Stauntondrewe. An honest priest to pray for the soules of my husbond and myn and for such soules as shall please myn executours to assigne. Residue to Sir John Sintloo, Knight, and to John Chock my son whom I make myn executours." Ch. Inq. P.M., held at Revelchestre, 18th November, 1493, states she held no lands nor tenements in the County of Somerset and that she died 28th July last past. John her son and heir is of the age of 22 years and more.

Lucy Hampton, the second heir on the list, married Thomas Chokke, junior. There is no record of his death either by a will or Inquisition, she secondly married John-Ap-Morgan, and thirdly, Morgan-Ap-Thomas. Ch. Inq. P.M., taken at Wells, 18th June, 1500, on the death of Lucy, who was

the wife of John-Ap-Morgan. The Jurors say that "Morgan-Ap-Thomas and the aforesaid Lucy late his wife, were seised of the Manors of Estharptre, Estwood, Charlecombe with their appurtenances, also 20 messuages, 200 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, and 100 acres of wood in Estharptre, Estwood, Charlecombe, Sherwolde, Sherburn, Colley Henton, Grendon, Wellis, Faryngdon, Harpetre, Tilley, West Harptree, Bushapford, Compton and Priddy in Co. Somerset. And the said Morgan and Lucy so being thereof seised certain William Hody, Knt., and others in Hilary Term, 1489–90, recovered all the said Manors, etc., against the said Morgan and Lucy then free tenants of the same manors, etc., in right of the said Lucy to the use of the said Morgan and Lucy and the heirs and assigns of the said Lucy." Lucy survived her husband. The Jurors say that she died 24th January 15 Hen. VII. (1499–1500) without heirs issuing of her body, and that Joan, wife of Edmond Gorges, Knt., is sister and next heir of the same Lucy, and that Joan at the time of Lucy's death was 28 years and more.

The only other record of Morgan-Ap-Thomas and Lucy is in a De Banco Roll, Hil. 7 Hen. VII. (1491–2). The Manors of Estharptre, Charlecomb and Estwood are mentioned.

Morgan-Ap-Thomas presented Thos. Younger in 1492 and John Wodde in 1497 to the parish church (Weaver's "Somerset Incumbents").

The Inq. (A.D. 1500) just recorded says Joan, the wife of Edmond Gorges, Knt., but before dealing with this Edmond we must give attention to Joan's first husband, Thomas Chokke, senior, and then to her second husband, Sir Thomas Newton.

Ch. Inq. P.M., held at Wells, 20th January, 1506–7, after the death of Joan who was the wife of Thomas Chokke (the Inq. says Richard, this has been corrected at the Record Office) Recites a will of Sir Richard Chokke, July, 1483, leaving to his son Thomas the Manor of Lokyngton. After Thomas' death it passed to his brother Richard, who demised it to Joan for her life, on Joan's death in 1506 it went to Richard's son John.

An earlier inquisition, 4th November, 1487, says that by a deed 9th September, 1483, the Manor of Lokyngton, etc., was sold to Thomas Chokke and Joan his wife, and that he, Thomas, died 2nd August 1487. This Thomas Chokke, the elder, in his will, 28th July, 1487 (4 Milles F. 26), desires to be

buried in the parish church of Stanton Drewe before the image of St. Mary the Virgin. Many bequests to churches: To the Prior of Bath 10li. Mentions his brothers Richard and John and John's sons, William and Henry. Residue to wife Joan, who with his brother John and others to be executors. Proved at Mortlake 12th September, 1487.

Joan's second husband, Thomas, was a son of John Newton, Knt., of Court de Wyke, near Yatton, and Isabella, daughter of Thomas de Cheddre. Isabella and her sister Joan were joint heiresses of their father. Sir John Newton died 26th January, 1487–8, his will was proved 20th March, 1487–8, and his widow Isabella died 29th May, 1498.

Returning to Thomas Newton and Joan. His will, dated 26th November, 1496, and proved 3rd January, 1496–7 (4 Horne). To be buried in the new chapel—that is the Wyke Chapel, Yatton Church—which was built by his ancestors. Joan, his wife, sole executrix.

Now we come to Joan's third husband, Edmond Gorges, Knt. This was his second wife, he first married Lady Anne Howard, daughter of the Duke of Norfolk, by whom he had a son, Edward, and a daughter, Margaret, who married Thomas Newton, Knt., son and heir of Joan.

There were several inquisitions on the death of Joan. One held at Bedminster, Co. Somerset, 31st January, 1506–7, recites that Edmond Gorges and Joan were seised as in right of Joan of the Manor of Estharptre, etc., and of the Manor of Charlcombe, which was held of the Prior of Bath. They had issue one son, Walter Gorges. Joan died 21st August, 1506. Thomas Newton (mentioned above) is her son and heir, and is 20 years of age and more.

Inquisition held at Barton Regis, near Bristol, Co. Gloucester, 20th June, 1507, states that Edmond Gorges and Joan held in right of Joan the Manor of Hanham, called Barres Court, held of John Husey, Knt., and Margaret his wife as in right of Margaret as of the Manor of Button.

Inquisition taken at Wells, 11th October, 1511, on the death of Joan, late the wife of Edmond Gorges, Knt., says that Joan was seised of the Manors of Estharptre, Charlecombe, Bageworth and Callcote, and that Edmond died 30th April, 1511. Inquisition taken at Northlach, Co. Gloucester, 15th October, 1512, after the death of Edmond Gorges, Knt., says that Joan Newton, widow, late the wife of Thomas Newton, held the Manor of Est Hannam with its appurtenances,

and so being seised thereof took to husband, Edmond Gorges, Knt. After Joan's death Edmond held the Manor. Edward Gorges, aged 30 years and more was declared his son and heir, and that Thomas Newton is the son and heir of Thomas Newton and Joan.

Edmond Gorges married a third time as shown by his will, from which two extracts are here given :—" 26th April, 1511 (7 Feliplace) Sir Edmond Gorges, Knt., Lord of Wraxhall, Co. Somt., My body to be buried in the chancel within the parish church of All Saints in Wraxhall. . . . My wife Jane late the wife of Sir Morgan Kydwelly . . to my son (son-in-law) Thomas Newton, and to my daughter Margaret a certyn of all maner of stuff of household to help them to begin their household. Residue to Edward son and heir, he to be exor." Will proved at Lamehithe, 3rd April, 1512.

" Sir Morgan Kydwelly, will prov. 6 April, 1505, to be buried in Monastery of Amysbury. If my wife (name not mentioned) lyve soole hereafter, &c."

Now we come to Thomas Newton, Knt., son of Thomas and Joan. He, as previously recorded, married Margaret, daughter of Sir Edmond Gorges by his first wife. Ch. Inq. P.M., taken at Brewton, Co. Somerset, 3rd October, 1522. A long document, mainly a repetition of earlier inquisitions. It quotes his will of 22nd January, 1518–19. In which he settled the Manor of Catcote on his brother John with remainder to his son Thomas, and settled all his other property, which would include the Manors of Charlcume, Estharptre, Estwode, etc., to his son Thomas, subject only to the life interest in one-third which was secured to his wife (obviously in satisfaction of dower). He bequeaths iii*l.* vis. viij*d.* to the church of Estharptre for his burying there, and to his sister Anne towards her marriage 100 marks. The Inquisition states that the Manors of Estharptre and Estwood are held of the King, and that the Manor of Charlecume is held of the Prior of Bath in soeage, and is worth by the year in all issues beyond reprises viiili. That Thomas Newton died 30th January, 1518–19, and that Thomas Newton was the son and heir of said Thomas Newton, Knt., and at the time of the death of his father was 10 years of age and more, and that he, the son, being within age, died 25th August, 13 Hen. VIII., and that John Newton is heir of his brother, Thomas Newton, Knt., and was 26 years of age and more at the time of the death of Thomas Newton, son. The above John Newton, Knt., described in his will as of Barres Court, Co. Gloucester, married Margaret, daughter

of Sir Anthony Poyntz, Knt., of Iron Acton, Co. Gloucester. This John held the whole of his late brother Thomas' estate subject only to the Dowager Margaret's (brother's widow) life interest in one-third of it, exclusive of Catcote. In the British Museum are two "Additional Charters" 6,363 and 6,544, A.D. 1524. "The Dowager and Sir John executed indentures in 1522 which were fortified by mutual bonds in 1524 under which Sir John undertook to pay the Dowager annually £42 in lieu of her claim to one-third under her husband's will, which she agrees to accept. The purpose of the two bonds is that if either of them breaks the arrangement, the one who does so pays the other £100 and the agreement comes to an end." Selyd by me Edward Gorges, Knt., for my syster Dame Margaret Newton.

Sir John Newton's will, 23rd August, 1561 (22 Babington) "To be buried in the parish church where I die, to every of my daughters unmarried (six named) at time of my death £100. All his lordships, manors, etc., after legacies, etc., fully contracted to remain to my eldest son and his heirs. His wife Margaret to have lands called Catcote." He refers to the Manors of West Hannam in parish of Bitton, Co. Gloucester, and of Churlecombe beside Bath. His will was proved 17th November, 1568, by Henry Newton, his son, to whom administration, and to Dame Margaret relict.

The writer has copies of a Chancery and Escheator Inquisitions, taken at Wells, 11th June, 1568. The last-named gives the fullest particulars. It states that John Newton, Knt., was seized of the Manors of Estharpatrey, Charlecombe, Were Borough and Tornocke, and of lands and tenements in Estwood, etc. By virtue of an Act 24th February, 27 Henry VIII. (1534–5) John Newton and Joan his wife were seized of the Manors and other the premises, viz., the said John Newton in his demesne as of fee and the said Joan in her demesne as of a free Tenement. The said John Newton, Knt., died on 31st March, 10 Elizabeth (1568), and the said Joan survived him and is living at Westharptrey. The values of the Manors and how held is recorded.

The Manor of Charlcombe is held of the Mayor and Burgesses of Bath, but by what services the Jury are altogether ignorant. It is worth yearly beyond reprises 10li. Henry Newton is son and heir of the said John, and is 37 years of age and more.

The above is the first mention of our Manor being held by the Mayor. Mr. W. K. Boyd has searched at the Record

Office, but has not found any record of the sale to the Mayor, etc., neither has Mr. Wardle come across any deed at the Guildhall relating to it.

In the above Inquisition, Joan is stated to be John's wife, it should read Margaret, see his will and inscription on his tomb. Margaret, it will be noticed, survived her husband. The Rev. G. D. Shallcross, Rector of East Harptree, writes me that his registers only go back to 1663. Mr. Harris, Diocesan Registry, has no transcripts of that parish so early as 1568. The illustration of Sir John's tomb at East Harptree is a reproduction of a photograph kindly given us by Mr. W. J. Robinson, of the *Bristol Times and Mirror.* A pillar hides part of the inscription, eight sons and twelve daughters (we shall only notice one son). The date of his death is there given 10th April, whereas in the Inquisition it is 31st March. The tomb appears to have been erected 37 years after his death, possibly this accounts for the discrepancy. The Rev. Shallcross has favoured the writer with the inscription on the side of the tomb: "Katherina Newton, Nuper Uxor Henrici Newton, Extruit Hoc Tumulum. An. Do. 1605." This Henry Newton and his wife Katherine will receive attention directly. Before doing this we will give a few mems from Leland's itinerary, about 1541 (Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society, Vol. xiv.) "Visiting Bitton, thense to Hanham about 2 Miles. At this Hanham dwellythe one Ser John Newton in a fayre olde Mannar Place of Stone caullyd Barrescourte. The Forest of Kyngs Wodd cummythe just onto Barres-courte, Mastar Newton's Howse." (Somerset Archæological Society, Vol. xxxiii). Gurney usyd to lye muche at Richemonte Castle. It stondithe . . . in the Paroche of Est Harptre by the Paroche Churche of it. Syr John Newton dyggyd up many olde Foundations of it toward buyldynge of a new Howse hard ther by caullyd Estewood. . . . Gurney's Landes came by this means onto Newton. One Newton a man of Fayre Lands inhabitynge at Wyke toward Banwell, had a younger Brother that maryed one of the Dowghtars and Heyres of Hampton and Wyfe afore to one of the Chokks that dyed without yssue by him. This was the yonggest Dowghtar of the 3 that Hampton lefte, and yet she beinge maried onto Newton, Father to Sir John Newton fortunyd to have all the Thre Partes.

On the death in 1568 of Sir John Newton, his eldest son, Sir Henry, came into the estates. In 1578 he married Katherine, daughter of Sir Thomas Paston and sister of Edward

Paston, who will be mentioned directly. Henry would be about 47 years of age at time of marriage.

C. Inq. P.M., 27th July, 1599 (a long document) records that in view of Sir Henry Newton's intended marriage he in Trinity Term, 1578, re-settled the estates, and on 1st August, 1578, took the said Katherine to wife, and by will dated 15th January, 1599, he bequeathed two parts of all his estates in trust for his son Theodore until the age of 21. The said Henry Newton died 2nd May, 1599, at Easthartrey, Co. Somerset. The said Theodore is his son and next heir, and is 15 years and 30 days of age. The said Katherine and his daughters, Frances Strangewais, widow, Ann, and Elizabeth, are living at Easthartrey. Another abstract from the Inquisition says the Manor of Charlcombe is held of the Mayor and Burgesses of Bath by fealty only for all services, and it is worth 8li yearly beyond reprises.

Will of Henry Newton, of Barrycorte, Co. Gloucester, 15th January, 1598–9 (49 Kidd). (Great length, a very few abstract will be given). Edward Paston and others Trustees for his son Theodore. £1,000 each to his two daughters and an annuity of £40 until they marry. £500 to daughter Frances Strangways. A clause as to keeping the farm of Charlcombe in order, etc. Sir John Newton my father. My loving wife and Theodore my son to be exors. Proved at London 1st June 1599 by oath of Proctor of Dame Catherine Newton relict and exix, to whom is power reserved to Theodore Newton, son.

Sir Henry Newton died 2nd May, 1599, and was buried at Bitton on the 4th (Bitton Register). His son, Theodore, was born 1st April, 1584, and baptised at Bitton 7th April. He would be 21 in 1605, and then have possession of the estates left him by his father.

Now we come to an Inq. P.M. Court of Wards, taken at Axbridge, 27th August, 1630, after the death of Theodore Newton, Knt., Dame Penelope his wife. The said Theodore died on 29th June, 1630, at the City of Bristol. John his only son aged 18 years 10 months and 16 days is heir.

Charlcombe is not mentioned in this Inquisition, we shall show that it passed from him during his life to Edward Paston, his maternal uncle. Edward Paston was the second son of Sir Thomas, whose brother, Sir Clement, left Appleton to this nephew. His sister, Katherine, as already stated, married Sir Henry Newton. He held a mortgage of Charlcombe, and eventually became possessed of the manor. In 1620 he

presented Benjamin Tanner to the living, the patronage having previously been in the Button family for 300 years. His wife, Margaret, was a daughter of Sir Thomas Berney, of Reedham, Knt. His will, a very long one, 26th February, 1629–30 (48 Scroope) proved at London 6th May, 1630, by Margaret Paston relect and exix. To be buried in the chancel of Blofield, Co. Norfolk, £30 or £40 to be spent upon a plain tomb. " Here lyethe buried Edward Paston, of Appleton in the countie of Norfolk esquire second son of Sir Thomas Paston Knt." His son Edward and wife, and Dame Katherine Newton his sister are amongst many others mentioned.

Mr. H. Parry has very kindly put into simple language a long and complicated document. Chancery Proceedings, 12th February, 1615–16. The answer of William Blanchard, gent., deforciant to the Bill of Complaint of Sir Theodore Newton, Knt. It seems that Theodore mortgaged the Charlcombe estate to his maternal uncle for £1,500 and to have forfeited it to him by reason of non-payment in or before 1614. (Forfeit is rather a vague word), and the question arises whether (1) E. Paston was in possession as the result of foreclosure, or (2) simply a mortgagee in possession. Theodore's subsequent proceedings suggest that he regarded Paston as " mortgagee in possession " only. If this was the case Theodore had a right to sell the estate, paying off Paston out of the proceeds and to require time to convey the estate to the purchaser.

Theodore endeavoured to negotiate a sale with Blanchard for £2,250, undertaking at the same time that Paston should join in the conveyance. The purchase money was only to be paid in instalments, and this fact was undoubtedly the cause of all the subsequent trouble. In the ordinary course of events under such a sale the first payments would have gone to Paston, who when he was fully paid would have been obliged to convey to Blanchard. But Theodore was hard up and wanted the first instalments himself.

A meeting was arranged in London, but Paston (who probably did not know anything about the matter) did not turn up, and Theodore failed to produce evidence of title.

In these trying circumstances Theodore had resort to stratagem. He raised £200 from Blanchard on a bond (which according to Blanchard was never sealed), and undertook to convey to Blanchard the manor and the advowson, purchase money to be paid in instalments, Blanchard to have immediate possession.

Relying on Theodore's covenant, Blanchard took possession and proceeded to let the farms, etc., but was promptly ousted by Paston.

The record that sets out these facts is Blanchard's answer in an action brought by Theodore. The exact nature of that action is not stated, but seems to have been an action for specific performance.

We will now give a few further notes of the Pastons to be followed by some interesting Petitions. Edward, one of the sons of Edward Paston, married Frances daughter of Sir John Sydenham, Knt., of Brimpton, Co. Somerset. She is named in her father's will 1626, as married, and in that of her brother John, 1627. Her death is recorded on a gravestone in Appleton Church: "In memory of Frances, widow of Edward Paston, who died February 15th, 1665, daughter of Sir John Sydenham, of Brimton, in Somersetshire." Her husband pre-deceased her, dying 18th February, 1654. Their only child and heir, Margaret, married Sir Henry Bedingfield, Knt., of Oxborow, Co. Norfolk. He was created a Baronet in 1666.

No will of Edward Paston, junior, has been traced, but the following has been found in the Administration Act Book, Fol. 125d. P.C.C. 15th June, 1655. Administration of the goods, etc., of Edward Paston, late of Beckhall, Co. Norfolk, Esqr., deceased, granted to Francis Bromwell, his principal creditor. By order of Court.

State Papers Domestic Interregnum Committee for Compounding, Vol. G. 110, p. 156:—Edward Paston, late of Charlcombe, petitioned 22nd November, 1653, that two parts of his estate in Co. Somerset that for several years had been sequestered for his recusancy, asking for the benefit of the late Act of Parliament (21st October last), for the disposing of such estates of recusants and further asks in respect for his old age for moderation in the rates to be imposed and reasonable time for disposing or sale of the same.

Vol. G. 26, p. 1. It was ordered that Mr. Reading should enquire into the matter and report.

Probably the report was not presented before his death, which occurred shortly after this date.

Vol. G 67, p. 823, February 27th, 1654. Henry Bedingfield on behalf of himself and wife Margaret, sole daughter and heir of Edward Paston, late of Horton, Co. Gloucester, deceased. It states that the said Edward was seised of the Manor of Charlcombe and that he died 18th of this instant, February,

and that the said manor descended to said Margaret his daughter. Your petitioner is not permitted the enjoyment thereof owing to two-third parts being sequestered for the recusancy of the said Edward.

Vol. G. 67, p. 837. The Commissioners for Sequestration Co. Somerset, are ordered to examine the matter and take evidence upon oath and report. (A true copy, 1st April, 1655).

It would appear that no reply to the above coming to hand the following further petition was presented :—

Vol. G. 67, p. 854. On 19th December, 1654, the Trustees for Michael and Ed. Bedingfield, infants, younger children of Hen. Bedingfield of Beekhall, petitioned the Commissioners to examine and report the title of the Manor of Charlcombe. They show that Ed. Paston by Indenture 10 Caroli (1634–5) in consideration of 500 li granted to said Hen. Bedingfield and his heirs one annuity of 40 li per an. chargeable out of his manor of Charlcombe. That by deed 6th December, 1654, Hen. Bedingfield settled the same for the use of the said infants, etc. The said Manor is sequestered by the recusancy of said Ed. Paston.

Vol. G. 27, p. 191. Copy of petition directed to Somerset returnable within one month.

Vol. G. 23, p. 1,690, May 24th, 1655. Report by Mr. Reading, April 20th, 1655, was read on the petition of Henry Bedingfield and his wife Margaret. Their claim was allowed, the sequestration discharged, and the arrears paid to him or his assigns which have grown due out of the same since 27th February, 1654. The petitions thus ended satisfactorily.

Mr. W. K. Boyd not finding Sir H. Bedingfield's will at P.C.C., traced it to Norwich. Sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxborow (alias Bechall), Norfolk, Bart. My body to be buried at my Exors. discretion. My Manor of Sherigham to wife for life, then to his son Henry. Many other bequests (Charlcombe is not mentioned.) My most excellent and dearly loved wife and Robert Catern the younger, of Eccle, Co. Suffolk, to be exors. Dated 30th June, 1684. Proved 9th March, 1685, by the exors at the Episcopal Consistorial Court of Norwich. Will of Dame Margaret Bedingfield relict of Sir Henry, late of Beekhall, in Billingford, Co. Norfolk (Degg. 125), 15th February, 1692. Whereas my own father, Edward Paston, Esq., late of Charlecome, also of Beekhall, gave me out of his kindness a rent charge for ever of 40 li a year I

bequeathe the same to my eldest son, Sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, Knt. and Bart. To the poor of Oxburgh (where I desire to be buried near my husband), 4 li. Sundry bequests. Son Edward, residuary legatee. He with Nicholas Parham, of Swanton Morley, Co. Norfolk, gent., to be exors. Long codicil, 13th November, 1701, giving many bequests to Pastons, Bedingfields, and other relatives. Proved 13th May, 1703, by Edward Bedingfield, power reserved to other exor.

The following notes, as well as a few earlier ones, have been abstracted from "Bloomfield's" Norfolk, but the majority are from the Record Office and Somerset House.

Oxburgh Church, Norfolk: "Under this monument lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bedingfield the 1st Baronet of the family made by special favour of Charles II. He served with Charles I. in all the rebellion. Ob. 24 February, 1684 (? 1684–5). Aged 70.

"Here lyeth the body of Dame Margaret, the only child of Edward Paston, of Horton, Co. Glouc., and only wife of Sir Henry Bedingfield. 50 years' perfect felicity in the married state, passed 18 years in widowhood. Ob. January 14th, 1702, æt 84 (so born about 1618, married 1634)."

Note.—Later generations adopted the name of Paston. Sir Henry Richard Paston-Bedingfield, 6th Bart., married in 1826 Margaret the only child and heir of Edward Paston (the last of the Pastons of Paston).

The foregoing notes deal mainly with those who held the Manor. How many, if any, lived in the parish it is impossible to say, it may be that some of the Hosett family did, and it looks as if Thomas Rugge was a resident. His daughter, Joan, states in her will that she was christened in the church. The Buttons, Newtons, and Pastons evidently lived on their other property. As to parishioners there is but little information. Here follows a few items from various sources.

Exchequer Lay Subsidy.

Somerset Record Society, Vol. iii. F. H. Dickinson, F.S.A. Preface, p. xxvi: "On November 23rd, 1327, Parliament granted a twentieth of all moveables which were in each man's possession on Michaelmas Day." Unfortunately the first part of the Roll is torn off so we only get a return of 5s. 11d. out of 21s. vid., the difference possibly representing ten others liable to be taxed, making a total of 14. No doubt the population of Charlcombe was always small, even early in the 19th Century it was only about 80.

Adhuc Cherlecoumbe.

Dr. Johanne Walters	..		xvjd.
Waltero le Fader ..	..		xvjd.
Xpiña (Christina) Fenel	..	ijs.	
Johanne Store, sen. ..	..		xvd.
Summa xx Villate predicte	..	xxjs.	vjd.

Muster Roll, A.D. 1569.

Somerset Record Society, Vol. 20. Emmanuel Green, F.S.A. Preface p. xix. The plan for raising any number of men outwardly as volunteers, but inasmuch as all had to serve, there was behind this a certain feeling of compulsion, not thought of however, in this time of danger. p. xx.—As a national militia must always be the greatest and strongest form of national defence, the visible evidence of national unity and strength, one lesson or duty can be learned here and warning taken, not again to let the subject be "too long intermitted" not to delay preparation until danger be upon us and so perhaps be too late.

Notes on the arms and armours, pay and commissariat, pp. 327–357, are interesting, but of course too lengthy to be given in full, a few items only will be given.

Tithing of Charlecombe.

Ablemen.

Richd. Morgan,	pikeman	Edwd. Grene,	billman
John Stibbs,	archer	Thos. Hobbes,	archer
Thos. Somer,	billman	Richd. Griffith,	billman
Thos. Somerhill,	pikeman	Robt. Yevans,	archer
Richd. Somerhill,	archer	Edwd. Pers,	billman

The pikeman carried a dagger and a sword, broad, and made to slice, and wore a complete corslet, etc.

The bill was, say, originally a scythe with but one cutting edge. Fixed on a shaft, next both sides were sharpened, then a hook with a cutting edge was added on one side to cut the bridle of the horseman.

Archer, speaks for itself—bow and arrow—the man was furnished with corslets.

Record Office. Taxation of various dates :—

CHARLCUMBE.

1441. 20 Henry VII. $\frac{169}{93}$

Charlcumbe xlvjs.

1473. 21 Edward IV.

The amount is the same, xlvjs.

1621. Lay Subsidy. 4 Charles I. $\frac{172}{388}$

John ffudgell in terris	j li	-	-	-	viijs.
William Maynard ,,	j li	-	-	-	viijs.
Elias Davis ,,	iiij li	-	-	-	j li xijs.
'Sm. ter pro subsidio	ij li viijs.				

Another subsidy, 4 Charles I. $\frac{172}{392}$

Gyles ffugell in terris	j li	-	-	-	iiijs.
Elias Davis ,,	j li	-	-	-	iiijs.
William Maynerde ,,	j li	-	-	-	iiijs.
Sma ter pro subsidio	xijs.				

1641. 16 Charles I. $\frac{172}{402}$

Elias Davis in terris	j li	-	-	-	viiis.
John ffugell ,,	j li	-	-	-	viiis.
William Maynard ,,	j li	-	-	-	viiis.
Sma ter pro subsidio	xxiiijs.				

Amongst those mentioned in the Lay Subsiday are John and Gyles ffugell. This family must have been inhabitants of this parish for many years, their names appears in the Register as Churchwardens, or otherwise, until 1664. The will of Thomas ffugell is of interest. Taken from "Weaver's" Wells Wills. Tho. ffugell of Cherlcombe, 27 June 1533, in the Church of Cherlcombe—Wells iiijd. Ch. of C ij shepe—my curat in recompense of dutye forgotyn, j shepe—every godch j shepe, callyd commonly a hogge—Neighbor Will, Horsynton j shepe—Wm. ffugell ij shepe and to iij maydens sisters every of them a shepe—Margaret Butteler vjs. viijd. Res—Alyce my W and W. F. my son.

Witn.—Wm. horsyngton, Will Busshe, Sir John Ponter curate there.

Of the witnesses—John Punter was instituted Rector in January, 1518. Wm. Horsyngton (neighbor) lived at one time in the parish of St. Mary's (Stalls), within the Gate, Bath. Wm. Busshe was no doubt father of John whose will, 20 July, 1567, says father William, Wife, Annye sole exix. The next will of this family is William, 24th January, 1578. Son Giles and Giles' two daughters, wife Alice exix (he was probably the

William quoted above as witness and father of John). Will of Alice Bushe 9th December, 1587, (P.C.C. 4 Rutland). To be buried in the Church of Charlcombe. The debts that I owe to John Norman of Bath, 25 Boushelles of wheate and 25 Bushells of Barley to be paid between Allhallowtide and Candlemas of the wheate and barley that grows uppon the grounde. One witness to the will was Willm Fudgell. Residue to her brother Edwarde Winiarde als Englonde who was an exor and proved the will in January, 1587–8. Will of Giles Bushe, 28th October, 1598 (P.C.C. 27 Kidd). To be buried in the church of Charlcombe, near my father's grave. To church of Charlcombe one Bushell of Barley ; to son William four score and ten pounds (the value of money at that period was probably twelve times that of the present time), twenty pounds to be paid at the Feast of the Annunsiation of S. Mary the Virgin in 1600, the same in 1601, 2 and 3, and ten pounds in 1604. Also to son William, one house with bed and bedstead over the hall, and my silver mazer or drinking bowl. Several married daughters are mentioned. Surveyors my well beloved in the lord John Batten, of the parish Chepnam (Chippenham) and James Tillie of Langridge. John Machell, clerke.

A list of debts due and owing are given. The will was proved in April, 1599, by Joan, his wife, exix, to whom he left residue.

It is a long will. Query—is John Machell correct or Joh Watchell, as given in "Weaver's" Somerset Incumbents. Rector 1596–1620.

Will of Ann, A.D. 1611. To be buried in ye ch. of Charlcombe. Daughters, Millicent, wife of Charles Davis, Mary, Ann and Frances, the two last to have residue and be exixs. Sons in law, John Britten of Northstoke and Wm. Bush.

Will of Richard Lewis, husbandman, 1st February, 1627–8. Proved 26th July, 1627 (Wells Probate Registry). To Elizabeth Bush 20s. after decease of my wife (name not stated). Residue to his three youngest daughters, Ann, Joan and Frances after decease of himself and wife, they to be exixs. Overseers Thomas Lewis, of Swainswick, William Lewis of Noade, Cold Ashton, and Henrie Sommered of the ph of Charlcombe.

NOTE.—Burial, 16th June, 1634. Elisabeth Bushe, Charlcombe, returns at Wells.

Will of William Palmer of Langridge, husbandman, 4 February, 1637 (Wells P.C.). To my brother, John Palmer, of

Charlcombe and his daughter, Joan Palmer, wife Elinor, to have residue and be sole exix. Overseers, Brother-in-law Thomas Poule, of Swaynswick, and William Maynard, the younger, of Charlcombe.

Note.—William Palmer married Elinor Houlden, 3rd February, 1622–3. Charlcombe returns at Wells. Benjamin Tanner, Minister. Elias Davis Churchwarden.

The writer would like to have introduced more interesting matter than the wills, but has not met with any such up to the above dates; at the same time the fact of giving names sometimes leads to other discoveries. Continued research in the 17th and 18th Century records may bring to light facts worth noting. A few extracts from the following document will bring these notes of the inhabitants of our parish to a close.

Chancery Proceedings, Series II. Bundle 17, No. 23. About A.D. 1617 William Bushe, husbandman, of Charlkom, complains that John Tyller and Joan his wife, of Shokerwick, had disturbed him in possession. John Tyller in answer, say that it is true Sir John Newton was seized of the Manor of Charlcom and that he, Sir John, on 14th June, 23 Henry VIII., did demyse the tenement to John Weeks and to Johanna now wife of defendant. That John Weeks died and the complainant and defendant were jointly seised.

The Church of St. Mary, Charlcombe.

Extracts from "Collinson's History of Somerset," Vol. I, p. 143 :—

The church is a small, but curious ancient fabrick, consisting of a nave and chancel, fifty feet long and eighteen feet wide. The common tradition is, that it was the mother church of Bath, and that the Abbey used to pay it annually a pound of pepper by way of acknowledgment.* On its western extremity is a square embattled turret of a singular construction, its western side projecting from the plane, and supported on the main wall by three clumsy corbels. In this turret are receptacles for two bells, and two bells it formerly had. . . . The bell that remains seems to be of equal antiquity, and is thus inscribed " Sancta Maria ora pro nobis."

* We have given several records of payments to the Prior, but no payments by him have been traced. Warner in " History of Bath," note p. 309, says totally void of foundation. Collinson, Vol. I, p. 54, " Offa, King of the Mercians, in 775, re-built the church, Bath." Query, was there a church at Charlcombe at that time ?

The pulpit is curious, and without doubt is as old as the church itself, it was formerly ascended through a door in the south wall by stone steps, which door still remains.* The present entrance is from the middle of the nave. It is constructed entirely of stone, nine feet in circumference within, and one foot thick all round. At the N.E. angle without, *i.e.*, of the churchyard there seems to be the foundation of an ancient building which it is not improbable might have been once appropriated to the residence of the priest.†

Collinson does not mention the font, which is said to be late Saxon or early Norman.

PATRONS AND RECTORS OF ST. MARY'S, CHARLCOMBE.

That valuable publication, "Somerset Incumbents," by Rev. F. W. Weaver, gives a list of the Patrons of this church from 1314 to 1674, and of the Rectors from 1312 to 1728. We will only briefly note a few of the earlier ones there recorded, and then pass on to those of a later date, adding further notes and carrying the records forward some 100 years.

The first Rector on the list is Ric. Gavente, 1312. A note says Bavent in Bishop Drokensford's Register. On referring to that Register, published by the Somerset Record Society, we find under date August, 1312, Richard Bavent, Rect. of Charlcombe, granted one year's study. Then we come to a "Mem." May, 1314. Nich de Lovente, instituted to the church. Patron, Bp. as guardian of the heir of John de Bytton. Inducted by Archd. of Bath. In July, 1315, Oliver de Grytton, Pr., was admitted to the Rectory by Proxy. Mem. 4th July, 1316. Oliver de Gretton, Rect. of Charlcombe to be absent one year in service of Sir Rog de Fetton and to farm, etc.

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* Grimm's sketch, made about the same period as Collinson published his history, shows a window in the south wall. One can hardly imagine the Priest being obliged to pass out through the main south door and then to enter through another door in the south wall to reach the pulpit.

† In September, 1910, Mr. Gerald Grey and the writer carried out explorations outside the churchyard wall to the north-west of the church (see our Branch Proceedings for 1910). Cutting several trenches brought to light foundations of buildings. The site had been so much disturbed that it was impossible to form any plan of a building. It seems feasible that this was the residence of the Priest, as suggested by Collinson. He would enter the church by the north door. Shards of pottery were unearthed, classified by an expert to date about 1500, two iron keys, knife, etc., were found, also roofing tiles and pennant stone for flooring. It has been stated that near by was a well, called "Monks well."

Bp. Ralph de Salopia's Register (Somerset Record Society), April, 1331. Licence for Oliver de Crettone to follow in the services of John de Stodlegh, usher of the King's hall until the Feast of St. Michael. October, 1332, Licence for Oliver de Greyton to be absent for one year. December 7th, 1362, Sir John Southstoke, priest, was instituted on the death of Sir Oliver the last rector at the presentation of Matthew de Button.

It is not stated that John de Button presented in 1315, but being then of full age one must presume he did. His son, Matthew, as shown above, presented in 1362, From that time the Button family and their descendants were Patrons of the living until the end of the 16th Century. The last of the line being Sir Henry Newton, who presented in 1596, and died in 1599. His brother-in-law Edward Paston, of Appleton, Norfolk (see earlier notes about him) presented Benjamin Tanner in 1620, who held the living for 54 years, until his death in 1674 (this includes the few years when Cromwell's nominee, Robert Pinney, was in possession). He also held Swainswick, from 1629 to 1674. The next Rector, John Taylour also held the two livings for 54 years, viz., 1674 to 1728. For a few years he had a curate, Walter Robbins (to whom we shall draw attention directly) who assisted in both parishes. In 1674 Hester Bave, was the Patron, she was the widow of Dr. Samuel Bave, who settled in Bath and established a considerable practice as a physician, and had a country residence. Westover House, Bitton. No record of his purchasing the two advowsons has come to light, but no doubt he bought them with the view of presenting them to his son, the Rev. Anthony Bave, who was Vicar of Tickenham, 1666, and Twerton, 1668, until his death, November, 1673, one year before there was a vacancy in either Charlcombe or Swainswick. Dr. Bave died in August, 1668, and was buried in the Abbey, Bath. In his will (135 Hene) proved 6th November, 1668, he left part of his Manor of Barrow Court to his son Anthony. This son, as previously stated, died in November, 1673, and was buried in the Abbey, Bath, on the 17th of that month. His widow, Isabella, died at Tickenham, 20th February, 1708–9, and was buried there. Hester, the widow of Dr. Bave, was buried in the Abbey, 1st June, 1682. In her will (67 Cottle), proved 18th June, 1682, she leaves lands at Tickenham to her son Charles. As the advowson of Charlcombe is not mentioned it seems probable she sold it before her death. At all events we find it in the possession of Thomas Sherston, who on 26th March, 1690, sold it to John Sherston,

and he on 6th November, 1697, sold to William Long. On 28th January, 1719, William Long, son and heir of the aforesaid, sold to John Whittington in trust for Walter Robbins, who at about that time was appointed Master of the Grammar School.

On the 1st March, 1721, he conveyed the advowson, in consideration of such appointment, to the Corporation of Bath, to the use of himself for life, with remainder, to the use of the Corporation in trust for the future Masters of the Grammar School. This arrangement held good until the advowson was purchased of the Corporation in trust for the Rev. E. T. Stubbs, who was appointed Rector in 1874.

It has been previously stated that the Rev. Walter Robbins was a curate under the Rev. John Taylour. On the death of the last named, in 1728, he was instituted to Charlcombe, this he held until his death in 1762, as curate and Rector for fully 43 years.

The following extracts from the *Bath Journal* may be of interest. March 28th, 1747–8 :—

" Advertisement. Grammar School near the North Gate. The Latin and Greek Classicks are faithfully and expeditiously taught. By Mr. Robbins, from St. John's Col. Cam. Such as please may learn French at the said School."

March 25th, 1754 :—

" Friday last the Corporation chose the Rev. Arthur Hele, Master of the Free Grammar School in Basingstoke, Master of the new Grammar School in Bath."

It would seem by this that the Rev. W. Robbins had retired, possibly on account of age.

August 16th, 1762. " On Tuesday last died here aged 70, the Rev. Walter Robbins, Bachelor of Laws, Rector of Charlcombe, and for many years Master of the Free Grammar School in this City."

In his will (478 St. Eloys), May 20th, 1760, he left the tenement in the parish of St. James (where he lived) and leasehold estate in Pucklechurch, Co. Gloucester, to wife Elizabeth. All messuages to son Charles. Sister Hannah Robbins and brother James both of the city of New Sarum, 15s. in bread to the poor of Lyncombe and Widcombe, 15s. in bread to poor of Swainswick, and 10s. to poor of Charlcombe.

Extracts from Church Register :—

Walter Robbins, curate of Charlcombe and Elizabeth Colthurst, of ye City of Bath, widow, were married July ye 19th, 1719, by the Revd. Mr. Roger Turner, Rector of Langridge, in ye Parish Church of Charlcombe.

Anne, ye daughter of Walter Robbins, curate of Charlcombe, and Elizabeth his wife, was born in ye Abbey Green in ye Parish of St. James, Bath, on March ye 30th, 1720.

1726. October ye 28. Charles ye son of Walter Robbins, curate of Charlcumbe, and Elizabeth his wife, was born in ye parish of St. James in Bath and privately baptised on ye 2nd of November in ye same year, and admitted into ye congregaon of ye faithful on St. Andrew's Day, being ye 30th November in ye same year in ye Parish Church of St. James aforesaid. May ye Lord Bless him wyth the Blessings of ye Earth and make him partaker of his Everlasting Kingdom.

Elizabeth ye daughter of my son Charles Robbins and Mary his wife, was born October ye 19th, between Two and Three O'clock in ye morning in ye Parish of S. James in ye City of Bath and was privately baptised October ye 22nd, 1750, and admitted into ye congregaon of ye faithful in ye Parish Church of St. James, Bath, November ye 14th, 1750, etc.

Mem. in Register No. 2. " The Rev. Mr. Walter Robins, Rector of Charlcomb died Aug, 10, 1762. And was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Arthur Hele, A.M., Vicar of Corston, Rector of Porlock, Master of ye Grammar School, Bath, and Prebendary of Wells."

Two extracts from *Bath Chronicle* :—

May 6th, 1778. " A few days since died at an advanced age, Rev. Mr. Hele, formerly Master of the Grammar School, etc."

September 6th, 1787. " Died in 84th year, Mrs. Hele, relict of Rev. Arthur Hele, Master of Grammar School. Remains removed to Newton."

The Rev. A. Hele was followed by the Rev. Nathaniel Morgan.

Two items from the *Bath Chronicle* :—

July 22nd, 1779. " The Rev. Nathaniel Morgan, rector of Corby, in Northamptonshire, and Master in the Grammar School in this City is presented to a Prebend in the Cathedral Wells."

April 5th, 1780. " The Rev. Nathaniel Morgan, Master of the Grammar School in this City is presented by his Grace the Duke of Montague to the Rectory of Dene in Northamptonshire."

Some years back Mr. W. H. Tomlinson (a connection of the Morgans) kindly favoured the writer with the following, amongst other notes: " The Rev. N. Morgan's wife, Mary, was a daughter of John Webster of Dene, near Oundle, agent for the Duke of Montague's Northamptonshire estate. She died November 23rd, 1794. Her sister, Charlotte Webster, married the Rev. Thomas Wilkins, who succeeded the Rev. N. Morgan, as Rector of Charlcombe, and Master of the Grammar School, Bath."

Under the belfry in Swainswick Church is a tablet with the following inscription: " Beneath this marble rests the body of Mary Morgan, wife of the Rev. N. Morgan, of the City of Bath. She died 23rd November, 1794.

The Rev. W. R. C. King, Rector of Swainswick (1916) has kindly sent me the following extract from the register of his church :—" Burial. February 21st, 1811. The Rev. Nathaniel Morgan from Bath." The register also states that Mary, his wife, was buried at the west end of the church, November 27th, 1794.

Register, Charlcombe :—

" August 15th, 1780. Nathaniel, son of Rev. Nathaniel Morgan, Rector of this Parish, and Mary his wife, baptized." (This son became Rector of Rearsby, Co. Lincoln, ob. 25th November, 1856).

" August 14th, 1784. Their daughter, Louisa, baptized."

" April 16th, 1783. Son William, aged 14 days, buried in the chancel."

" June 15th, 1785. Richard, an infant buried."

" December 11th, 1788. Thomas buried."

There are other entries of Morgans but whether of this family there is nothing to show.

The Rev. Thomas Wilkins succeeded his brother-in-law (Rev. N. Morgan) in May, 1811. It seems probable that he assisted him both as curate and at the Grammar School. There are two entries in the register under baptisms :—

" August 30th, 1796. Edward, son of Rev. Thomas and Charlotte Wilkins, of the Parish of St. Michael's, Bath."

1634. CHRISTENING.

April 13.—Richard Fudgell son of John Fudgell and Elizabeth his wife.

BURIAL.

June 16.—Elisabeth Bushe.

BAPTISM.

Aug. 31.—John Gane son of John Gane.

MARRIAGE.

Oct. 19.—William Bysey and Julian Palmer.

BAPTISM.

Dec. 1.—Marie Maynard daughter of William Maynard the younger.

BENIAMIN TANNER, *Minister.*
ELIAS DAVIS, *Churchwarden.*

1635.

In our parish this year past there were no christenings nor burials nor weddings.

BENIAMIN TANNER, *Minister.*
ELIAS DAVIS his × mark. *Warden.*

1636. BAPTISM.

Feb. 23.—Maria Gane, daughter of John Gane and Anne his wife.

Burials and Weddings we had none.

BENIAMIN TANNER, *Minister.*
ELIAS DAVIS, *Warden.*

1663. BURIAL.

July 9.—John Fudgell the elder.

BAPTISM.

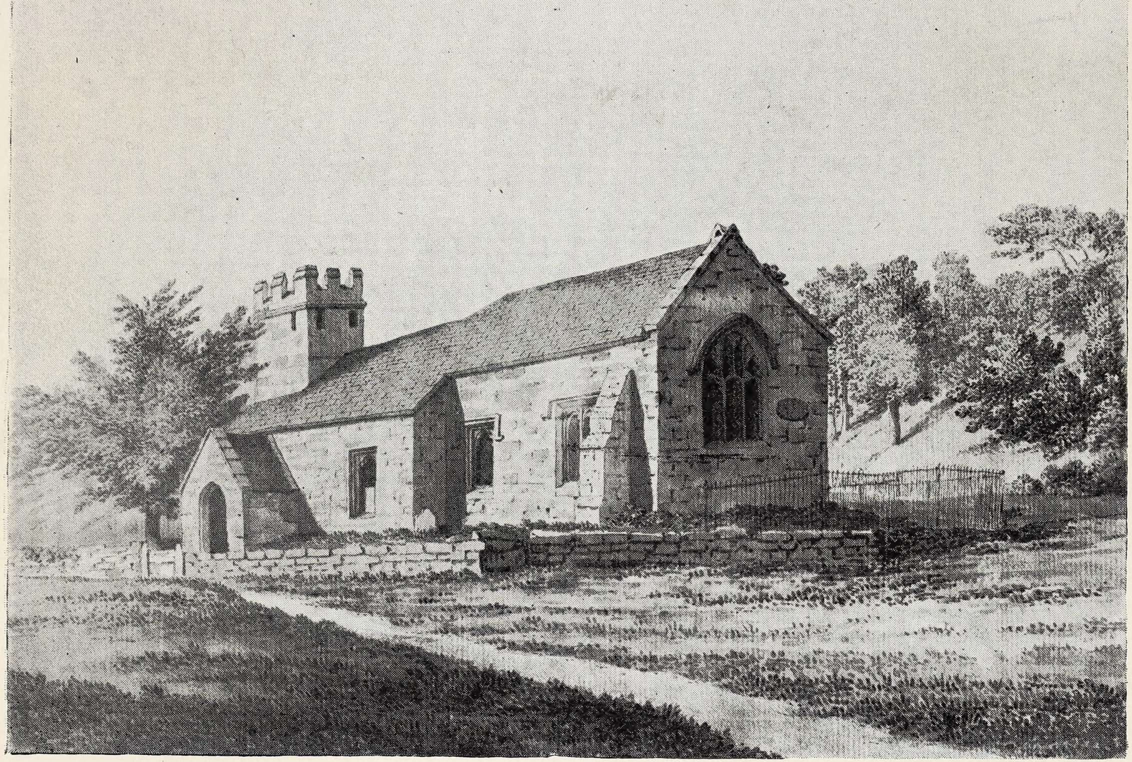
Oct. 17.—Marian daughter of Gyles Maynard and Margaret his wife.

BENIAMIN TANNER, *Minister.*
GYLES FUDGELL, *Churchwarden.*

1664. BAPTISM.

Nov. 27.—James Davis son of John Davis and Sapiens his wife.

Jan. 26.—Grace Fudgell daughter of Gyles Fudgell and Mary his wife.



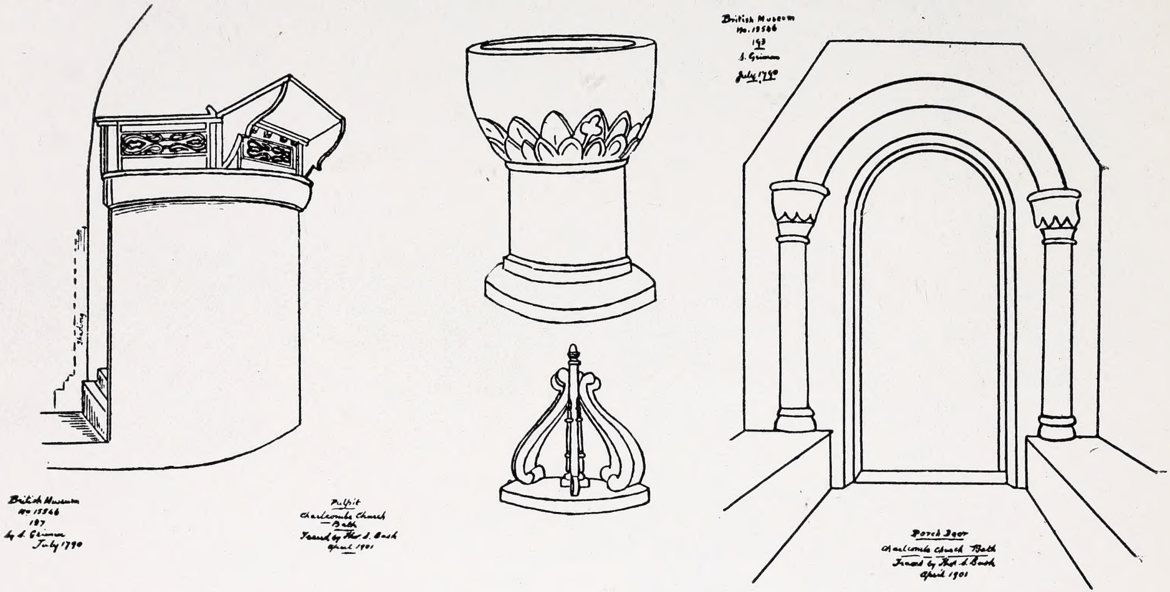
Sketch, S. H. Grimm, 1790.] *[British Museum.*

ST. MARY'S, CHARLCOMBE.

All sketches have been reduced in size to suit these pages.

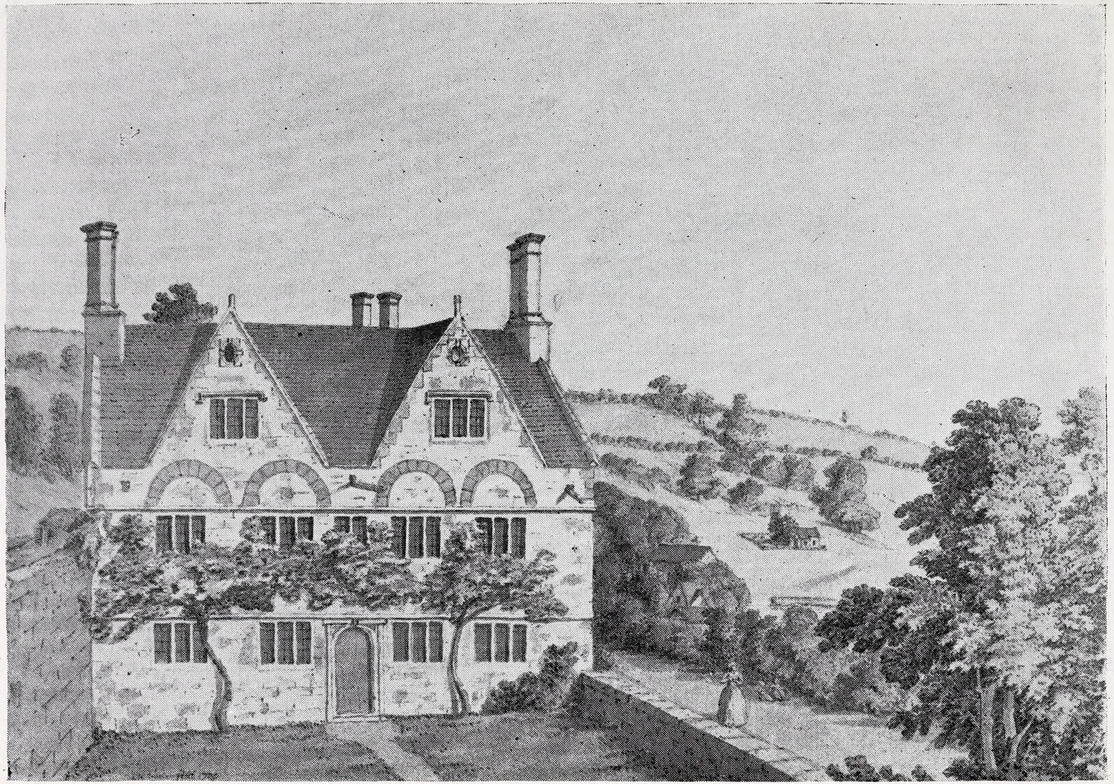
Sketch, S. H. Grimm, 1790.] *[British Museum.*

ST. MARY'S, CHARLCOMBE.



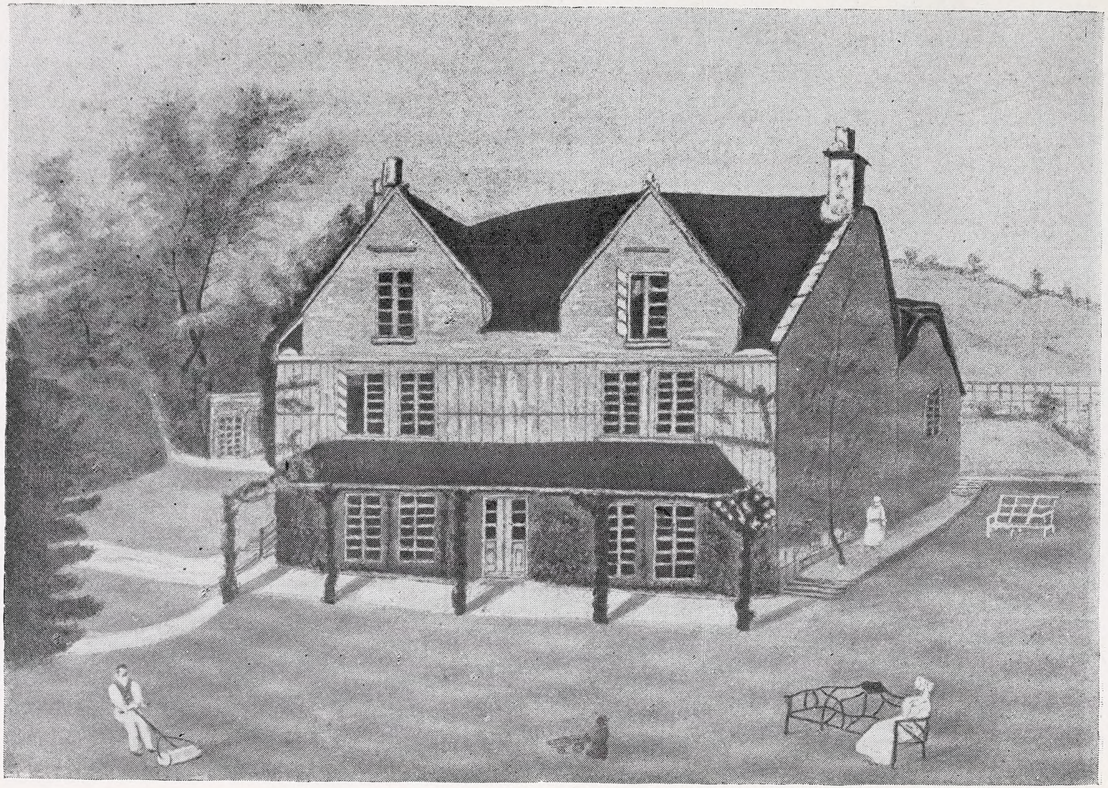
Sketches, S. H. Grimm, 1790.] *[British Museum.*

ST. MARY'S, CHARLCOMBE.



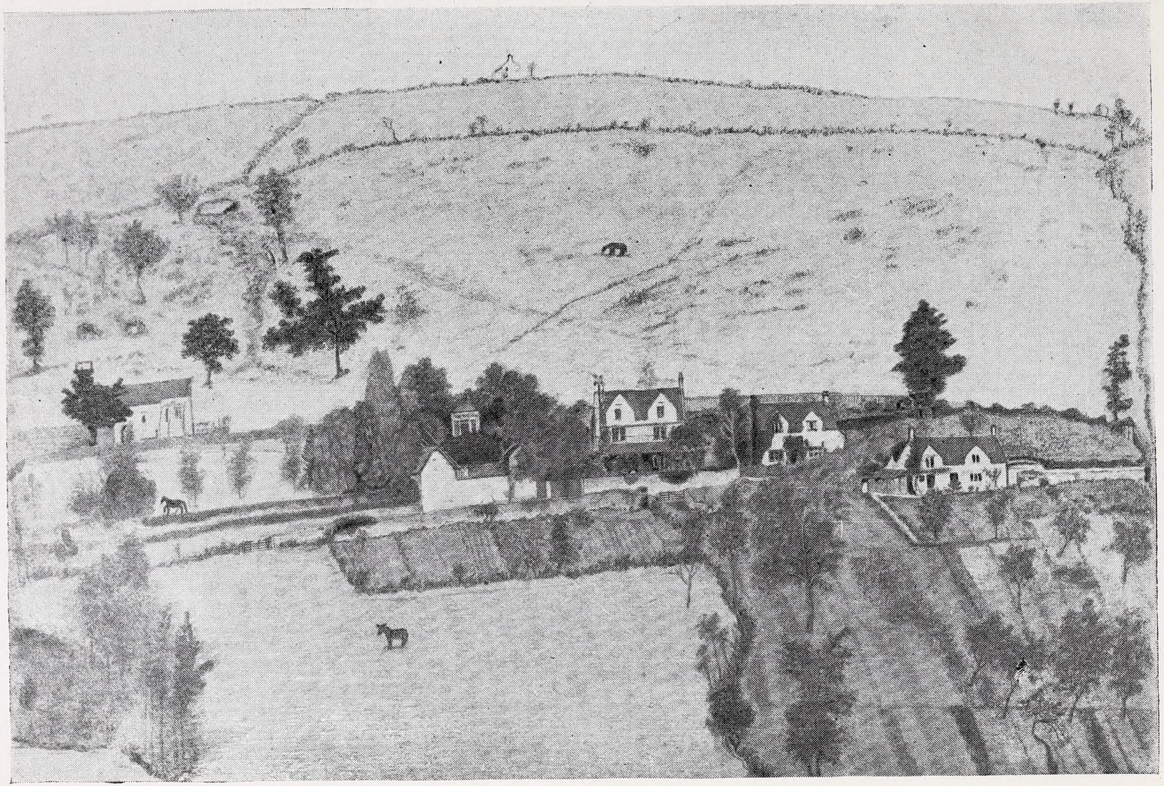
Sketch, S. H. Grimm, 1790.] [*British Museum.*

MANOR HOUSE, CHARLCOMBE.



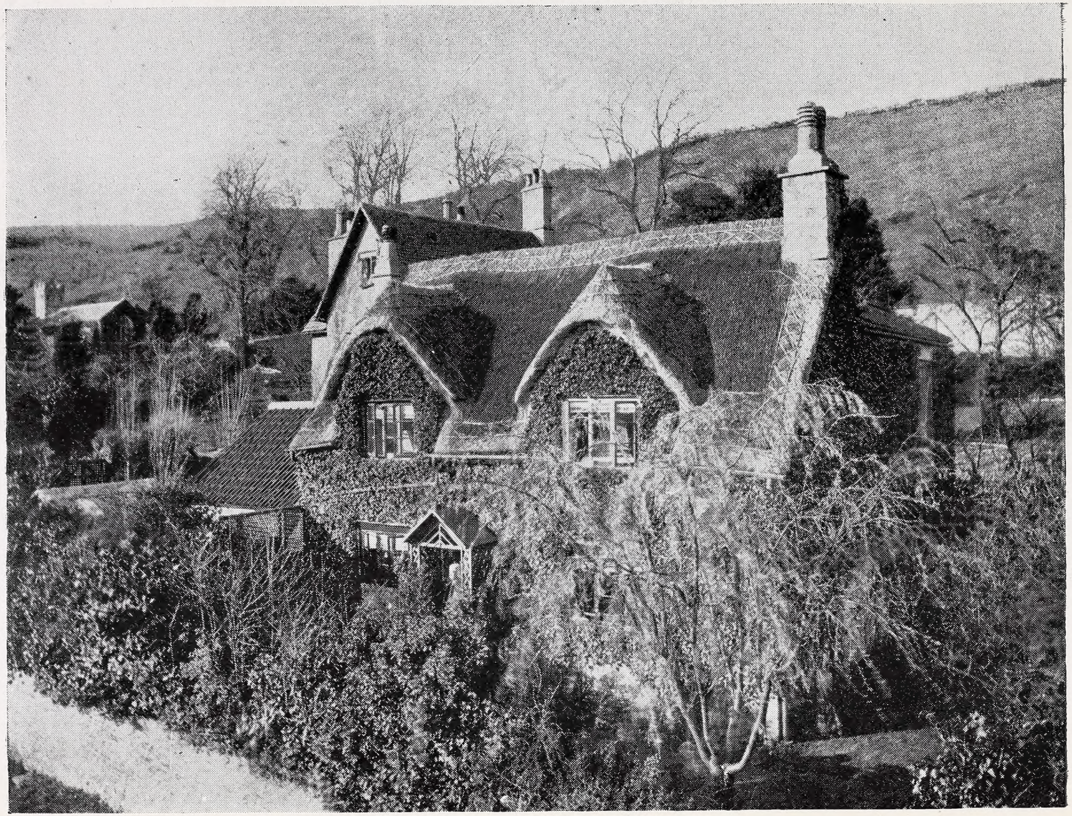
[Sketch, J. W. Bush, 1835.

THE RECTORY, CHARLCOMBE.

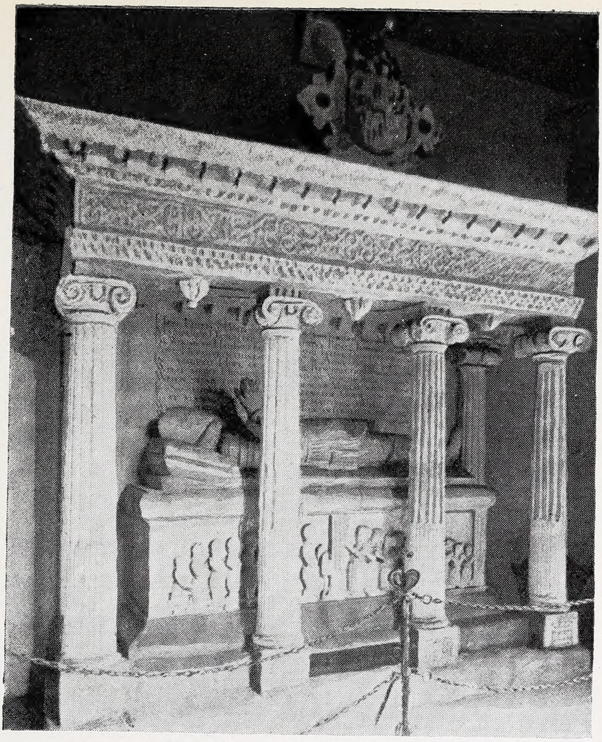


[*Sketch, J. W. Bush*, 1835.

THE VILLAGE, CHARLCOMBE.

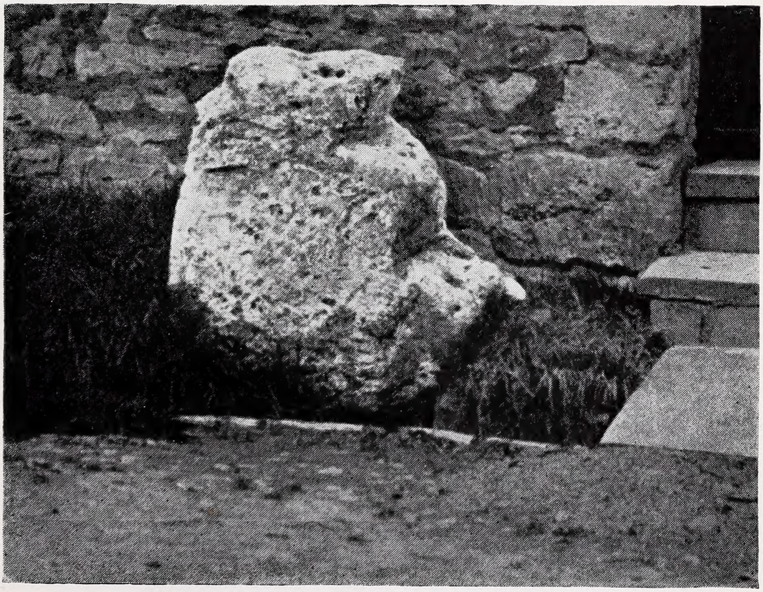


LAST OF THE THATCHED COTTAGES, CHARLCOMBE.



Photo, W. J. Robinson.] [*" Bristol Times and Mirror."*

SIR JOHN NEWTON'S TOMB, EAST HARPTREE.



[*Photo, Surg.-Major Mantell.*

MOUNTING BLOCK, CHARLCOMBE.

BURIAL.

Feb. .—Elizabeth Fudgell, widow.

BENIAMIN TANNER, *Rect. ibi.*
GYLES FUDGELL, *Churchwarden.*

Anno Domini. Charlcombe. A true list of ye christenings
1666 and buriall here for ye yeare of our Lord 1666.

(1) Mary ye daughter of Gyles Maynard and Margaret his wife was baptised ye 28 of May, Anno p'dict.

(2) William ye son of John Hipsley and Anne his wife was baptised ye ninth day of July. Anno p'dict.

(3) Edward Hancocke and Hester Woodward were marryed ye 14 day of October. Anno p'dict.

BEN. TANNER, *Minst.*
JOHN DAVIS, *Churchwarden.*

1667. Charlcombe. Anno Domini 1667. A note of Christenings, marriages and buryalls there.

Edward Tylye and Katherine Attwood were marryed ye 19th of April.

Rebecca Barker buried ye 18th daye of July.

Margaret Harrold was buried ye 24th daye of August.

Anne ye daughter of Robert Brice was baptized ye 25th August.

Thomas ye son of Robert Webbe and Margaret his wife was baptized ye 7th of Sept.

Marie ye daughter of John Davis and Sapiens his wife was baptized ye . . daye Februarie.

BEN. TANNER, *Minist.*
JOHN DAVIS, *Churchwarden.*

1669. Charlcombe. Anno Domini 1669.

Joyce ye daughter of Robert Brice and Ann his wife was baptized the last day of October.

Anthonie Elkington and Marie Bush were married ye 22 daii of Februarie Anno p'dict.

BEN. TANNER, *Minst.*
JOHN DAVIS, *Churchwarden.*

The Treasurer in Account with the Bath and District Branch Somersetshire Archæological Society for 1916.

1916. Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last year	110	2	8
,, 172 Members' Subscriptions	43	0	0
,, Sale of Proceedings	1	4	6
,, Excursions	1	19	7
,, Dividens on 4½% War Loan	2	5	0
	£158	11	9

1916. Cr.				£	s.	d.
By J. B. Keene & Co., printing and illustrating Proceedings, 1915				30	6	0
,, J. B. Keene & Co., Circulars and Stationery				2	5	0
,, Hire of Rooms, Literary Institution				0	17	6
,, Lecture, Hire of Room, Lantern, Post Cards, etc.				2	2	6
,, Middleton Ashman & Co., Slides				1	5	0
,, Postage of Proceedings, etc.				1	6	0
,, Ditto, per Excursion Secretary				2	1	0
,, William Lewis & Son, Ltd., Circulars, etc.				1	13	10
,, Donation, Restoration of Tithe Barn, Bradford-on-Avon				5	0	0
,, Ditto, National Trust				1	1	0
,, Subscription, Somerset Archæological Society				1	1	0
				48	18	10
,, Balance, War Loan	£50	0	0			
,, ,, at Parr's Bank	59	12	11			
				109	12	11
				£158	11	9

Audited and found correct—ROBT. ISGAR.
8th December, 1916.

THOS. S. BUSH, *Hon. Treasurer.*

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

1916.

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1910 Longworth-Dames Miss C., 2, Winifred's Dale.

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1913 Massy Miss, 2, Duke Street.

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1907 Miller Mrs., St. Albans, Weston Park.
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1913 Milsom Mrs., De Montalt, Combe Down.
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1911 Powell Mrs. W. H., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1915 Powell Mrs., 12, Rivers Street.
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1913 Pryor Mrs., 2, Woodhill Place, Bathwick Hill.

1905 Reade Rev. Robert C. L., M.A., Charlcombe Rectory (Deceased).
1905 Reade Mrs., Charlcombe Rectory.
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1903 Spender Miss, 34, Marlborough Buildings.
1905 Staight S. Neville, Esq., Battlefields.
1903 *Strachie Lord, Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol.
1911 Straghan Mrs., 26, Crescent Gardens.
1913 Strangways Miss, Shapwick, Somerset (Deceased).
1912 Strangways Miss R. C., 6, Brunswick Place.

1915 Tanner J. H., Esq., 12, Beaufort East.
1915 Tanner Mrs., 12, Beaufort East.
1904 Taylor A. J., Esq., 18, New Bond Street.
1903 *Thatcher A. A., Esq., Midsomer Norton.
1916 Theedam Miss, 26, Park Street.
1903 *Thomas C. E., Esq., 13, Queen Square.
1903 *Tite Charles, Esq., Stoneleigh, Taunton.
1904 Tyte W., Esq., 7, Bloomfield Crescent.

1914 Wace Henry, Esq., St. Winifreds.
1914 Wace Miss, St. Winifreds.
1903 *Waldegrave Right Hon. the Earl, Chewton Priory.
1913 Walker Robert, Esq., F.R.G.S.
1916 Walker W. A., Esq., Hamilton House, Lansdown.
1914 Ward Mrs. Langfield, Weston Lawn, Weston.
1910 *Wardle F. D., Esq., Guildhall.
1905 Watson Mrs. Dominic, 21, Royal Crescent.
1904 Way Miss H. S., 3, Castle View.
1904 Wayne Miss F. C., Dale Cottage, Charlcombe.
1903 *Weaver Rev. F. W., M.A., F.S.A., Milton Clevedon Vicarage, Evercreech.
1916 Westhall Miss, 62, Combe Park.
1903 *Whittuck E. A., Esq., Claverton Manor.
1909 *Wickham Rev. J. D. C., M.A., Holcombe Manor.
1904 Williams D. Prout, Esq., 7, Belvedere.
1913 Wills J. H., Esq., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Mrs., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Stanley, Esq., 14, Royal Crescent.
1913 Wills Mrs., 14, Royal Crescent.
1903 *Winwood Rev. H. H., M.A., F.G.S., 11, Cavendish Crescent.
1908 Wood Miss Ellen, 38, Combe Park.
1914 Wood Miss Margaret, 59, Combe Park.
1913 Woods John C., Esq., Bank House, Trowbridge.

1911 Young B. W., Esq., 1, Stanley Villas, Camden Road.

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL

AND

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

REPORT, 1917.

THE Committee have pleasure in stating that the position of the Branch as regards membership continues much the same as in the past. Commencing the year with 169 members (one having passed away at the close of 1916 the vacancy was not filled) thirteen have resigned, three deaths, sixteen elected, and one rejoined who was on the star list, thus closing the year with 170, exclusive of one member who is still from home. Five candidates are waiting admission.

The account of the Annual Meeting, the Earl Waldegrave, Vice President, in the Chair, will follow this Report.

The Committee deeply regret that the Rev. H. H. Winwood has, owing to ill health, resigned from that body of which he has been a most active member from the formation of the Branch. Colonel Kirkwood has been elected to fill his place as Chairman, and Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn elected to fill the vacancy on the Committee.

At the Annual Meeting it was notified that owing to the use of char-a-bancs being prohibited and the restrictions on railway traffic excursions would be dropped. Instead four afternoons have been devoted to places of interest in the City. Mr. Gerald Grey being fully occupied with war duties, Mr. Thos. S. Bush undertook to make the necessary arrangements. The meetings are reported, with several illustrations

in these Proceedings. The attendance—average about 40—shews that they were appreciated. Thanks are due to Mr. Mowbray Green for kindly acting as guide on two occasions.

On April 12th a Paper on "Burial Mounds and Stone Forts of Ireland," written by Mr. George Norman, was in his unavoidable absence read by Mr. M. H. Scott, illustrated by lantern slides. Mr. M. H. Scott read a Paper in November on "Fair Rosamond," also illustrated.

We are indebted to Mr. George Gregory for the loan of an engraving of Beau Nash's house for reproduction. The illustrations of the credence in the Abbey and the stone cupboard, 15, Westgate Street, have been reproduced from photographs taken expressly by Mr. Lewin, "Bath Herald" Office.

Thanks are due to Mr. Thos. S. Bush for carrying out the duties of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The accounts show a slightly reduced balance mainly due to the increased cost of publishing the Proceedings owing to advances in material and wages. Mr. Anderson has very kindly audited the accounts.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Literary Institution on Friday, March 23rd, 1917, at 3.30, Earl Waldegrave (Vice-President), in the Chair, and among those present were Lieut.-Colonel H. P. Leigh, Rev. A. H. Scott-White, Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn, Dr. D. A. O'Sullivan, Rev. R. M. Perkes, Colonel Arnoll Davis, Rev. F. H. Mules, Colonel C. Mainwaring, Rev. G. Howard Bigg, Lieut.-Colonel P. Stevens and Mrs. Nash, Rev. C. M. and Mrs. Becker, Messrs. G. Norman, M. H. Scott, E. Segar, E. Pryce, St. D. Kemeys-Tynte, Mrs. T. S. Bush, Mrs. Cuthbert Layton, Miss C. Grierson, Mrs. Leigh, Miss E. M. Horne, Miss L. M. Salmon, Miss Ida Norman, Miss Newham, Miss Rodman ; and Mr. T. S. Bush (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer).

Lord Hylton, Rev. Ethelbert Horne, Major-General Bradshaw, Colonel Clayton, Mr. Robert C. Bush and Mr. Gerald Grey were unavoidably prevented attending. Mr. Grey wrote that owing to so much of his time being given up to war work he could not undertake arranging excursions.

The Chairman said he regretted to announce the resignation from the Committee of the Rev. H. H. Winwood through ill-health ; since the inauguration of the Branch he had taken keen practical interest in the work. He suggested that the Secretary should send a letter of regret at Mr. Winwood's resignation and its cause, and the wishes for his speedy recovery. This was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts, said that considering the abnormal state of affairs the position of the Branch was very satisfactory. The number of members had been maintained and the balance at the bank was practically the same as last year. The excursions were very successful, thanks to the energy of Mr. Gerald Grey. Owing to the restrictions on railways and the pro-

hibition of char-a-bancs the excursions will be dropped for the present, but they hoped to arrange for papers on archæology, natural history, and other kindred subjects to be read or printed. Prebendary Boyd had promised to call attention to points of interest in the Abbey and it was hoped visits will be paid to other buildings in the City. He regretted that Lord Hylton's duties in London prevented him from being present in his capacity as President.

The Rev G. Howard Bigg seconded the adoption of the Report and Accounts.—Carried.

The following resolutions were duly carried :—

Mr. Norman proposed the re-election of Lord Hylton as President, he having been associated with this Branch from its foundation, has always taken great interest in its work.

Mr. M. H. Scott seconded.

Colonel Davis moved the following be elected Vice-Presidents :—Earl Waldegrave, Lord Strachie, and Captain Foxcroft.

Colonel Leigh seconded.

The Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn proposed the following Committee :—Major-General Bradshaw, Col. E. Clayton, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, Col. Kirkwood, Colonel Leigh, Mr. G. Norman, and Mr. M. H. Scott.

Mr. Segar seconded.

Colonel Nash moved the election of Mr. Thos. S. Bush as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Kemeys-Tynte seconded.

Mr. Bush having thanked the members for kindly re-electing him, said that as the excursions were to be discontinued for the present it was proposed to give attention to the City. On April 19th it has been arranged to visit the Abbey and Roman Baths and he hoped other places of interest will be visited in due course. On April 12th Mr. Norman will give an address on " Burial Mounds of Ireland."

Two other papers have been promised, these will be deferred to the Autumn. He would like to mention that although the volume for 1916 was smaller than the previous one, the cost considerably exceeded it, owing to the great advance in the prices of material and labour. Members must, therefore, not be surprised if the next volume is much reduced in size.

Mr. Bush, in proposing the re-election of Mr. Grey as Hon. Excursion Secretary, said although excursions were to be dropped for the present it was advisable to keep up the office. He was sure it was not necessary to remind members how thoroughly Mr. Grey had carried out the duties for several years.

Mr. Pryce seconded.

Mr. Norman brought forward a circular he had received from the Parent Society asking him if he could induce more members of this Branch to join that Society. After some discussion the matter dropped.

On the motion of the Rev. A. H. Scott-White a vote of thanks was accorded Earl Waldegrave for presiding.

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

1917.

PRESIDENT:

THE RIGHT HON. LORD HYLTON.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

CAPTAIN CHARLES T. FOXCROFT.
LORD STRACHIE.
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL WALDEGRAVE.

COMMITTEE:

COLONEL HENDLEY P. KIRKWOOD (Chairman).
MAJOR-GENERAL BRADSHAW, C.B.
COLONEL E. CLAYTON.
ST. DAVID M. KEMEYS-TYNTE, Esq.
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL P. P. LEIGH, C.I.E.
GEORGE NORMAN, Esq., F.S.A.I.
(Hon. Local Secretary Somersetshire Archæological Society),
REV. D. LEE PITCAIRN, M.A.
M. H. SCOTT, Esq. (late I.C.S.).

Ex-Officio Members of the Committee:

CHARLES TITE, Esq. } Hon. Secretaries Somersetshire
REV. F. W. WEAVER, M.A., F.S.A. } Archæological Society.

HON. EXCURSION SECRETARY:

GERALD J. GREY, Esq.

HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER:

THOS. S. BUSH, Esq.

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1917.

(* Are also Members of the Parent Society.)

1904 ACLAND Mrs. B. D., Cross Cottage, Bovey Tracey.
1911 *ADAMS E. CAY, Esq., Brentwood, Combe Down.
1904 AIREY Miss, 1, Royal Crescent.
1914 ANDERSON JAMES, Esq., 10, Lansdown Crescent.

1914 BARCROFT Mrs., Tor View, Combe Down.
1908 BAYLISS Rev. F. C., Pulteney Hotel.
1910 BEAVAN Miss, Roslyn Road, Newbridge Hill.
1917 BECKER Rev. C. M., Inglescombe Vicarage.
1917 BECKER Mrs., Inglescombe Vicarage.
1913 BIGG Rev. G. HOWARD, 1, Belgrave Road, Grosvenor.
1903 *BLATHWAYT Lieutenant-Colonel LINLEY, F.L.S., F.Ent.S., Eagle House, Batheaston.
1903 BLATHWAYT Miss, Eagle House, Batheaston.
1904 *BLATHWAYT Rev. W. E., M.A., Dyrham Rectory, Chippenham.
1903 *BOTHAMLEY Rev. Prebendary, Richmond Lodge.
1903 *BOYD Rev. Prebendary, M.A., B.C.L., The Rectory, Camden Crescent.
1911 BRABAZON Miss, 18, Lansdown Crescent.
1912 BRADSHAW Major-General, C.B., Buckenhill House, Lansdown.
1912 BRADSHAW Mrs., Buckenhill House, Lansdown.
1916 BRENDON C. R., Esq., 12, Burlington Street.
1916 BRENDON Mrs., 12, Burlington Street.
1904 BRETON Miss ADELA C., 15, Camden Crescent.
1915 BROMLEY Rev. F. A., M.A., Weston Vicarage.
1910 BROOKFIELD Mrs., Stratton-on-the-Fosse.
1913 BROWNE Miss DOMINICK, 15, Marlborough Buildings.
1913 BROWNE Miss — DOMINICK, 15, Marlborough Buildings.
1903 *BUSH ROBERT C., Esq., 1, Winifred's Dale.
1903 *BUSH THOS. S., Esq., 20, Camden Crescent.
1903 BUSH Mrs. THOS. S., 20, Camden Crescent.

1916 CARR Mrs., Manor House, Weston.
1916 CARR Miss, Manor House, Weston.
1915 *CARR J., Esq., Wood House, Twerton.
1916 CARR Miss, Wood House, Twerton.
1916 CARR Miss J. F., Wood House, Twerton.
1906 CASEY Miss, 61, Combe Park. (Deceased).
1905 CAVE Mrs., 20, Circus.
1912 CHOPE Mrs., 10, Mount Beacon.
1903 CLAYTON Colonel EMILIUS, Charlcombe Manor.
1903 CLAYTON Mrs., Charlcombe Manor.
1911 COLOMB Mrs., 17, Darlington Place.
1904 COOKE Miss M. A. H., Lonsdale, Combe Down.
1912 COURTENAY Miss E. F., 5, Kensington.
1913 COX Lieut.-Colonel, Fonthill, Lansdown.
1911 CROSSMAN Rev. C. D., St. Edith, Bathampton.

1911 Crossman Mrs., St. Edith, Bathampton.
1904 Curd Charles, Esq., 6, Gay street.
1904 Curd Mrs., 6, Gay Street.

1917 Daunt Miss Mary, 7, Lansdown Crescent.
1903 Davis Rev. J. Roland, M.A., Broughton Gifford Rectory.
1903 Davis Colonel T. Arnoll, Weston Park House.
1912 Dease Patrick P., Esq., 6, Widcombe Crescent.

1912 Fosbery Dr., 1, Oxford Row.
1911 Foxcroft Captain Charles T., Hinton Cherterhouse.

1916 Gabriel Miss, Fleetlands, Weston.
1908 *Gervis Henry, Esq., M.D., F.S.A., 15, Royal Crescent.
1908 Gervis Miss Dora L., 15, Royal Crescent.
1906 Goldie Robert F., Esq., South Lawn, Lansdown.
1917 Gore Miss, The Priory, Southstoke.
1914 Graham Miss, 26, Combe Park.
1910 Gregory Mrs., Mount Beacon House.
1903 *Gregory George, Esq., 5, Argyle Street.
1903 *Grey Gerald J., Esq., Collina House, Bathwick Hill.
1904 Grey Mrs., Collina House, Bathwick Hill.
1915 Grierson Miss, 11, Camden Crescent.

1905 Hallett T. G. Palmer, Esq., M.A., Claverton Lodge, Bathwick.
1903 *Hallett Mrs., Claverton Lodge, Bathwick.
1915 Head H. E., Esq., 14, Dunsford Place.
1904 Heathcote J. Cuthbert, Esq., Brent Knoll Manor, Somerset.
1915 *Hignett Geoffrey, Esq., Hodshill, Southstoke.
1915 *Hignett Mrs., Hodshill, Southstoke.
1917 Hippisley F., Esq., Bayfield, Bathwick.
1913 Holmes Thomas J., Esq., Eastern House, Beechen Cliff.
1914 Holt Miss F. V., 13b, Henrietta Street.
1903 *Horne Rev. Ethelbert, Downside Abbey.
1915 Horne Miss E. M., The Lodge, Limpley Stoke.
1917 Hughes W. Tatham, Esq., 12, Somerset Place. (Deceased).
1917 Hughes Mrs., 12, Somerset Place.
1903 *Hylton Right Hon. Lord, Ammerdown Park, Radstock.

1916 Ingham H. M., Esq., 4, Raby Place.
1913 Irwin Mrs. A., Fonthill, Lansdown.

1903 *Kemeys-Tynte, St. David M., Esq., The Beeches, Bathwick Hill.
1903 *Kirkwood Colonel Hendley P., Newbridge House.
1903 Knight Miss J. F., Bath and County Ladies' Club.

1917 Lascells E. H., Esq., Parkside, Park Lane.
1917 Lawrence Emily Lady, Langridge House.
1917 Lawrence Miss, Langridge House.
1905 *Lawrence F. W., Esq., M.R.A.S., F.R.G.S., Hillcote, Lansdown.
1915 Layton Mrs., 11, Camden Crescent.
1908 Leigh Colonel P. P., C.I.E., Grosvenor House.
1916 Leigh Mrs., Grosvenor House.
1913 Linley-Howlden H., Esq., Old Manor House, Freshford.
1916 Linley-Howlden Mrs., Old Manor House, Freshford.
1910 Longworth-Dames Miss C., 2, Winifred's Dale.

1917 Mainwaring Colonel, St. George's Hill, Bathampton.
1917 Mainwaring Mrs., St. George's Hill, Bathampton.
1916 Martyn Mrs. King, 8, Gay Street.
1913 Massy Miss, 2, Duke Street.
1913 Maule Major-General, 2, Penn Lea, Newbridge Hill.
1906 *Miller Thomas H., Esq., St. Albans, Weston Park.
1907 Miller Mrs., St. Albans, Weston Park.
1913 Milsom A. C., Esq., De Montalt, Combe Down.
1913 Milsom Mrs., De Montalt, Combe Down.
1916 Milsom F. H., Esq., Audley Lodge.
1916 Milsom Mrs. F. H., Audley Lodge.
1917 Molesworth Brigadier-General, Elstree House, Lambridge.
1904 Morley Charles, Esq., Shockerwick House. (Deceased.)
1909 Mules Rev. F. H., 17, Pulteney Road.

1910 Nash Lieut.-Colonel, 7, Laura Place.
1910 Nash Mrs., 7, Laura Place.
1912 Newham Miss, 11, Raby Place, Bathwick.
1903 *Norman George, Esq., F.S.A.I., 12, Brock Street.
1907 Norman Mrs., 12, Brock Street.
1913 Norman Miss, Oakfield, Weston Park.

1917 O'Sullivan Dr., Glencairn, Bathwick.

1912 Parry Hubert, Esq., The Rise, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Perkes Rev. R. M., Court Essington, Midford.
1913 Phillimore J. E., Esq., East India U.S. Club, 16, St. James's Square, S.W.
1904 Pitcairn Rev. D. Lee, M.A., Bushey House, Monkton Combe.
1904 Pitcairn Mrs., Bushey House, Monkton Combe.
1911 Pitt Mrs., Southstoke House.
1913 Powell Rev. W. H., D.D., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1911 Powell Mrs. W. H., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1915 Powell Mrs., 12, Rivers Street.
1907 Pryce Ernest, Esq., 10, Cavendish Crescent.
1906 Pryce Mrs., 10, Cavendish Crescent.
1913 Pryor Mrs., West Bank, Bideford

1909 Rodman Miss, 17, The Tyning.
1903 Rolleston Colonel V., Saltford House, Bristol.
1903 Rolleston S. V., Esq., B.C.L., M.A., Saltford House, Bristol.
1911 Rose H. Fullwood, Esq., 93, Sydney Place.
1914 Rose Mrs. H. Fullwood, 93, Sydney Place.

1904 Salmon Miss E. E., 26, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1904 Salmon Miss L. M., 30, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1903 *Scott M. H., Esq., 5, Lansdown Place, West.
1910 Scott Mrs., 28, The Circus.
1917 Scott-White Rev. A. H., Claverton Rectory.
1915 Segar Edward, Esq., Bella Vista, Lansdown.
1915 Segar Mrs., Bella Vista, Lansdown.
1907 Shum F. E., Esq., 6, Bathwick Hill.
1903 *Sibbald G. E., Esq., Mount Pleasant, Norton St. Philip.
1903 Spender Miss, 8, Forester Road.
1903 *Strachie Lord, Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol.
1911 Straghan Mrs., 26, Crescent Gardens.
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1913 Walker Robert, Esq., F.R.G.S.
1916 Walker W. A., Esq., Hamilton House, Lansdown.
1914 Ward Mrs. Langfield, Weston Lawn, Weston.
1910 *Wardle F. D., Esq., Guildhall.
1905 Watson Mrs. Dominic, 21, Royal Crescent.
1904 Way Miss H. S., 3, Castle View.
1903 *Weaver Rev. F. W., M.A., F.S.A., Milton Clevedon Vicarage, Evercreech.
1916 Westall Miss, 17, Waterloo Court, Golder's Green, N.W. 4
1903 *Whittuck E. A., Esq., 77, Audley Street, W. 1.
1909 *Wickham Rev. J. D. C., M.A., Holcombe Manor.
1917 Wilkinson Miss, The Priory, Southstoke.
1904 Williams D. Prout, Esq., 7, Belvedere.
1913 Wills J. H., Esq., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
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1914 Wood Miss Margaret, 59, Combe Park.
1913 Woods John C., Esq., Bank House, Trowbridge.

1911 Young B. W., Esq., 1, Stanley Villas, Camden Road.

The Treasurer in Account with the Bath and District Branch Somersetshire Archæological Society for 1917.

1917. Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last year	109	12	11
,, 173 Members' Subscriptions	43	5	0
,, Sale of Proceedings	0	13	6
,, Dividens on 4½% War Loan	2	5	0
	£155	16	5

1917. Cr.		£	s.	d.
By William Lewis & Son, Ltd., printing and illustrating Proceedings, 1916 ..		35	2	0
,, William Lewis & Son, Ltd., Circulars and Stationery		3	18	6
,, Hire of Rooms, Literary Institution ..		0	17	6
,, Two Lectures, Hire of Room and Lantern		2	15	0
,, Postages, Proceedings, Circulars, etc. ..		2	1	0
,, Fees, Roman Baths, etc.		0	18	6
,, G. Gregory, 2 Copies Proceedings 1904 ..		0	4	0
,, Donation, National Trust		1	1	0
,, Subscription, Somerset Archæological Society		1	1	0
		47	18	6
,, Balance, War Loan ..	£50 0 0			
,, ,, at Parr's Bank ..	57 17 11			
		107	17	11
		£155	16	5

Audited and found correct—JAMES ANDERSON,
10th December, 1917.

THOS. S. BUSH, *Hon. Treasurer.*

The cost of the Proceedings for 1917 not included in the above.

RAMBLES IN BATH.

THE ABBEY. April 19th, 1917.

(Prebendary S. A. Boyd, M.A., B.C.L.)

There are two Chartularies (or collections of charters) of Bath Priory ; the one in the library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, the other in the library of Lincoln's Inn. They were edited, with an introduction, by Dr. William Hunt in 1893. In the first, there is a charter (1.7.) setting forth that on November 6th A.D. 676, King Osric "gave 100 *manentes* at Bath to the Abbess *Bertana* for the foundation of a House of Nuns." Already Whitby Abbey was in existence, presided over by Hilda, and Coldingham, and Minster in the Isle of Thanet, and not a few others. A little later were added Gloucester, also founded by Osric, and Wimborne in Dorset. Only two other records of the Bath Nunnery exist, the one a little doubtful, the other, according to Dr. Hunt, certainly spurious. The doubtful record is a charter (1.8.) which tells of a "gift of land (20 *manentes*) apparently on the river Cherwell (at Oxford) called Ceruelle, made in October, A.D. 681, to an Abbess named Bernguidis (*Anglice*) Beörngyth, and a nun, Folcburga or Folcburh, who was probably the *decana*, or, as she would be called later, the Prioress of the Convent. This was in the time of Theodor Archbishop of Canterbury. The mention of the two names, "which we should not be likely to find in a mere late forgery, seems," says Dr. Hunt, "to indicate a foundation of fact in this grant." For this reason these two names are engraved upon the brass set up in our church a few years ago. There are not other names of Abbesses in any document known to exist, and in all probability the nuns' foundation was shortlived, a House of Monks taking its place and existing here, though with many vicissitudes, till the Dissolution in January, 1539.

When the Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, was here a week or two ago, he asked whether we had any traces of the Saxons at the Abbey. I told him there were eight Saxon Abbots of Bath and two Abbesses before them, giving their names, Bertana and Bernguidis. He said at once that the

latter was a Welsh-sounding name ; that "guidis" was good Welsh, though I forget now what he said it meant. This, however, seems to be an accident and, inasmuch as in the original charter the name is in Latin, Dr. Hunt is probably right and her English name was Beörngyth as above.

Small Door in South Nave Aisle near West End, Abbey Church.

It is possible that many persons who frequent or often visit this church may never have noticed this doorway. It has evidently been renewed and it is not easy to say when the last renewal took place. But it is pretty clear that the position of the doorway is at least as old as the present structure. It springs from above the stone seating which runs round the greater part of the church and is not dissimilar from the approach to the two stairways flanking the great west door. In each case it would have been necessary to mount on the stone bench to enter. On entering this doorway one finds oneself in a very small chamber lighted by a window of modern construction, now closed by a small wooden door. It is probable that the window takes the place of an ancient one. The south side of the little chamber is plastered up and externally the space is flanked by two substantial buttresses of the existing church. The Priory Monastic buildings abutted on this portion of the church from ancient times, and it was in this region that the Prior's lodgings were situated. Thus a chamber like this might have been connected with a passage or a private way to the Prior's lodgings. This, however, is not probable; nor is it likely that this was, as someone has suggested, a receptacle for processional banners, as at St. Mary's, Chelmsford. It is more probable that Mr. Harold Brakspear's view is the correct one. During a recent visit he formed the opinion that it was the starting-place of a stone stairway constructed in Norman times to give access to the roof at this point. The west wall of the Norman Cathedral stood on the same spot as that occupied by the present west wall of the church. Mr. Irvine, at the time of Sir Gilbert Scott's restoration, saw and sketched the bases of the jambs of the great west door below the foundations of the present door. The south wall of the Norman building would have run very much where the present south wall runs, and a Norman staircase at this point would have been quite natural. When the present building was set up, the starting-point of this staircase (or a portion of it) was preserved but the stairs were destroyed, there being no further need for

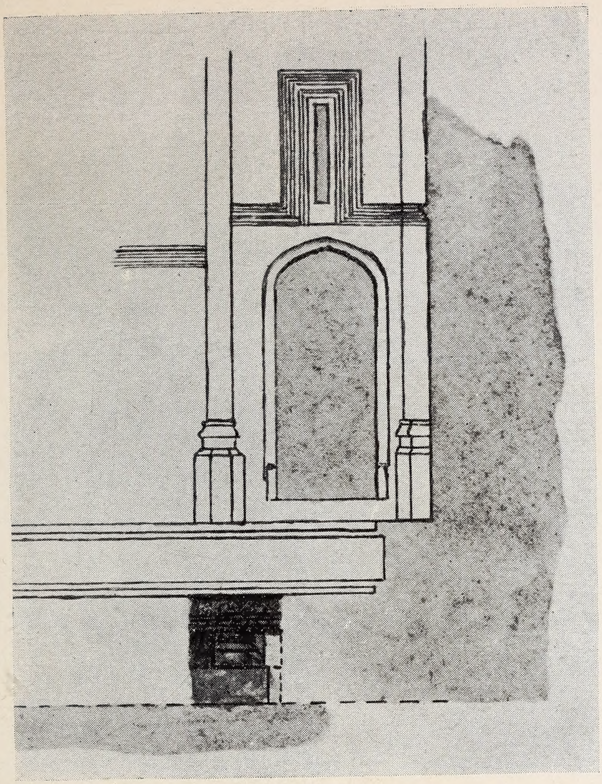
them, seeing that two new stairways were constructed in the west wall of Bishop King's church, one in each of the western turrets. If this is the true account of the matter, then this little chamber is an interesting survival, the only portion of the Norman cathedral still standing at this end of the church. I may mention that nothing is to be learnt from an examination of the wall from outside. When the buttresses of the present perpendicular church were erected, the walling was all altered and no trace exists of this chamber except the little window that lights it, which was altered to suit the new style. The only thing to be seen by entering the chamber is that the stone roof of it, especially on the eastern side, appears to be domed.

The three views of the doorway have been slightly reduced from drawings prepared by Mr. Richard Mann in 1917.

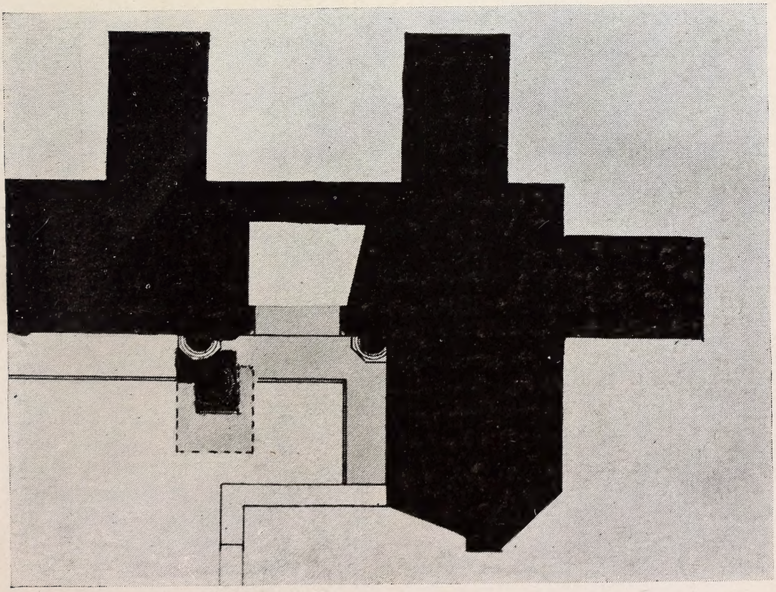
No. 1 is a sectional elevation shewing the doorway with the window above and the Norman base lying below the level of the present floor ; No. 2 is a plan shewing the doorway with the small chamber in the main wall and the position of the Norman base ; No. 3 perspective sketch of Norman base at present uncovered to bottom of moulding. The section above shows its position at higher level than that of the Norman base.

Doorway in East Wall of North Transept.

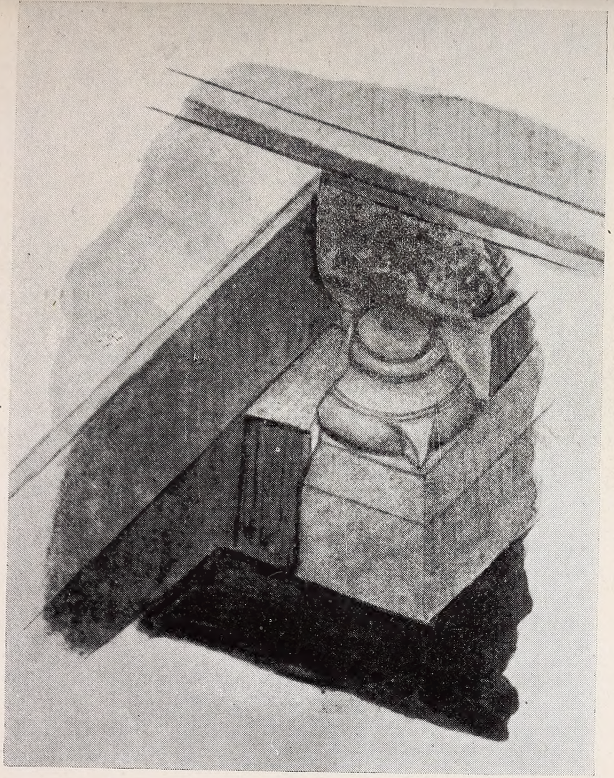
Four years ago, when the large pipes of the organ which had been ranged along the east and west walls of this transept were removed, Sir Thomas Jackson, our architect, discovered traces of a doorway with moulded stone jambs. Clearing away the rubbish it was found that there were nine steps descending through the thickness of the wall to the level of the foundations of the present building. There were no traces of any floor or paving, but there was a wall on the north side extending two or three yards eastwards, and corresponding to this there was a skewback on the church side for the roof to rest upon, which had been cut into the stone of the church. No sign of an eastern wall was found, and the roof of the chamber must have been little below the level of the surrounding ground. It is pretty clear that this stair could scarcely have led to an outside door and must rather have been an approach to a chamber. Mr. Harold Brakspear suggests that this is really a vault. On the south wall of the south transept there is a stone credence (illustrated). Whether it is *in situ* is impossible to say, but if it is, and if it was, as seems likely, a shelf above a *piscina* of which no trace remains,



THREE VIEWS S.W ANGLE BATH ABBEY.
No. I. ELEVATION.
DOORWAY, WINDOW AND NORMAN BASE.



No. 2. PLAN, DOORWAY, CHAMBER AND NORMAN BASE.



No. 3. PERSPECTIVE SKETCH.
NORMAN BASE.

[*Photo, Mr. Lewin, Herald Office.*

CREDENCE, S. WALL, S. TRANSEPT,
THE ABBEY, BATH.

then there must have been an altar in pre-Reformation times against the east wall of that transept. There may have been a similar altar against the east wall of this north transept, though no signs are to be found of one, and Mr. Brakspear thinks that this vault might have been constructed to receive a body in connection with the chapel above, or which it was proposed to build above. The idea is interesting, and such vaults below a side-chapel are, of course, not uncommon. On the whole, however, I think this is improbable. Prior Birde and his coadjutors had their work cut out for them to build the present church. He and his successor, Prior Holleway, or Gibbes, spent all their money on what they would have regarded as essential work. As it was they left the church far from finished, and then in 1539 the Dissolution came. Additions and excrescences would not, I think, have been thought of, though it is true that chantry chapels were multiplying in a remarkable way in the years before the Reformation. I incline to the belief that this doorway is later, that it is Jacobean, and gave access to an ordinary funeral-vault, which appears, however, never to have been used. This is remarkable, for certainly it was a good vault, and it is evident that in the 18th and early 19th Century the authorities were hard put to to find a yard or two of vacant earth, inside the church, to bury strangers or themselves in ! It must have been forgotten, or kept for some distinguished stranger and no one distinguished enough ever came !

The Figure Surmounting the Edmonds Cup.

This cup, which is silver double-gilt, is our most precious portable possession, and is of a well-known type. Its date is 1619, and it is a very perfect work of art of that day. It was presented by Thomas Bellott, founder of Bellott's Hospital. There may be other cups of the same type within our diocese but the only one I have seen is greatly inferior. It is larger, not nearly so well proportioned and quite without artistic merit. This cup is a model of strength and lightness, pleasant and graceful in its embellishment, and beautifully balanced. A cup strongly resembling it was sold at the Joseph Dixon sale in London some years ago for £2,550. There has been some speculation as to the figure surmounting the steeple-cover. It has been suggested that it may be the Christian warrior. I am satisfied, however, that it represents the Roman soldier who pierced the Redeemer's side with a spear. The figure is habited like a Roman soldier and the spear is a true spear and a long one. The suitability of such a representation on a chalice or communion-cup needs no enforcing.

THE ROMAN THERMÆ OF BATH.

By ALFRED J. TAYLOR, M.S.A. (Architect to the Baths Committee).

The city of Bath occupies the site of the Roman town of Aquæ Sulis, although there is evidence that, as in the case of Chester, it was a waste for probably two centuries, following its destruction in A.D. 577. Antonius in his 14th Itinerary mentions it as in direct communication with the military roads from London through Silchester (Calleva) to Caerleon (Isca Silurum). The Roman road from Lincoln, Cirencester to Ilchester and the south coast, crosses the former road at Bath, but both these ancient roads appear in the first place to have omitted Bath precisely as was the case with York (Corinium). The road from Lincoln crosses the valley a mile to the eastward of the city through the fort town on Hampton Down, the road from Caerleon crossing at the fort, although a more direct road to Silchester and London was also carried to the south of the present city.

The diversion of these roads by the Romans, so far as they can at present be traced, was due to the attraction of the hot mineral springs, and the erection of the baths and the residences surrounding them.

Claudius was in all probability the Roman founder, as a coin of his reign, 1st brass, was obtained during the excavations, which was undoubtedly originally deposited on the large stone slab on which it was found.

It may be assumed that A.D. 54, or within 15 years of that time, was the date of the commencement of the baths, which, subsequently enlarged from time to time during a period of 350 years, were afterwards allowed to fall into disrepairs, although still used for their original purpose, were much curtailed during the following 177 years.

During excavations made in 1754, for the erection of houses on the site of the Priors' residence near the Abbey, a considerable bath was uncovered.

This bath, generally called the Lucas Bath, is situated at the extreme eastern end of the excavations, and comprises in addition to the rectangular swimming bath, two semi-circular baths, hypocausts and heating chambers.

An account of this discovery was published in August, 1755, in the *Gentlemen's Magazine ;* subsequently further portions were laid bare, but as the ancient work which was not then destroyed was again covered with houses, the Roman Baths of Bath were once more lost to view. About the year 1871,

the late Major Davis commenced work, which ultimately led to the discovery of the Roman Well, an octangular enclosure 50 feet by 40 feet, in which is enclosed the spring which provides the greater part of the mineral water (at a temperature of 120 degrees) now used in the modern bathing establishments. A great bath 100 feet long by nearly 67 feet wide. This bath is the largest yet discovered and is of great interest; the bottom is still entirely covered with sheets of lead, 10 feet by 5 feet in size, and weighing 40lbs. to the foot super, laid by the Romans, and is in a remarkably good state of preservation. A circular bath and several other large baths, together with the chambers for hot baths corresponding to the system now known as "Turkish" baths. A portion of these discoveries has been covered in by the erection of the Queen's baths, but these have been erected so judiciously that no ancient work is really hidden, and the new buildings preserve the antiquities from exposure to the weather. Since 1871, excavations have been carried on more or less continuously, and in 1895 a wooden duct, which formerly bore away the hot mineral water from the spring beneath the King's Bath, was traced for 100 yards or more. The wood of this duct, which is oak, is remarkably perfect, although the structure was probably put together, if not in the reign of Claudius, not later than the time of Titus. Coins of these emperors were found during the exploration, with other coins of Constantine and his successors. More remarkable recoveries from this duct were a carbuncle ear-ring, set in gold, a crescent pin with a pearl, other pins of bronze, fibulæ, etc., and no less than 30 gems (intaglios), pronounced by the authorities of the British Museum to be of either the first or second century.

Amongst all the monuments and remains of the Roman occupation of Britain, it is in this city alone that any public baths have been discovered; and when it is remembered that, unlike any other Romano-British work, the buildings erected here were not only of great extent and architectural grandeur, but were constructed of colossal materials obtained from the immediate neighbourhood, the visitor to Bath cannot fail to be impressed with the continuity of its history.

It is believed that the Roman Thermæ, from the First to the Fourth Century, covered an area of several acres, and capable of the accommodation of a large number of bathers, while a much larger area of gardens and recreation grounds undoubtedly adjoined the baths themselves.

If the baths had not a distinctly British origin, the general dimensions leading some authorities to that belief, it is held

to be established that the Roman work, commenced as we have seen as early as the reign of Claudius, was carried on and subsequently enlarged and altered under successive emperors. On the recall of the Roman Legions from Britain, the ruins of the baths seem to indicate a considerable curtailment. Many baths and apartments were blocked up, the bathers being fewer, but still with a paucity of means to maintain them in repair, they served to accommodate the Romano-British inhabitants of Bath, until the city was ruthlessly destroyed and laid waste in A.D. 577.

Amongst the antiquities discovered during the excavations are fragments from the tympanum of a pediment to a temple probably dedicated to Minerva. As will be seen by an inspection of this splendid piece of work, which stands almost, if not quite, alone among the sculptures of the Western Roman Empire in character and style, I have endeavoured to show the probable completion of it, but attempting nothing without an apparent justification. There are also portions of a column which evidently supported this pediment, together with fragments of the cornice belonging to the same structure ; and fragments of perhaps two or three more temples and a great number of other objects such as altars, sculptures and inscriptions of very great interest not only to the ardent antiquarian but also to the public generally.

ABBEY CHURCH HOUSE. MAY 24TH, 1917.

(Prebendary S. A. BOYD.)

That there was a building here of some sort before 1570 is certain. The site, midway westwards between the Cross Bath and the city wall and not particularly near any principal gate would not have been unoccupied. Probably many buildings have stood here from Roman times onwards. Of Roman remains, however, we know nothing. What we do know is that within the recollection of the late Major Davis "several circular arches and Norman capitals were discovered." It would be interesting to ascertain where these are now. The conjecture is that they belonged to the *Hospital for Lepers*, founded, it is supposed on this site, by Bishop Robert of Lewes in 1138, who rebuilt the Abbey Church after a destructive fire.

How ancient the foundations of the present building are is difficult to say. If you descend to the cellar immediately beneath the room below the concert-room, you find yourself

in a chamber with very thick walls, lighted on the St. John's Hospital side by two windows, which are now basement windows, but which have all the appearance of having once been well above the ground. There are plain indications all round this portion of ancient Bath that the level of the ground has been raised, at least by many feet. It is clear that what is now the basement was formerly the ground floor, and that it has been smothered in the course of time.

When the building is viewed from the outside, from Helting Court and from Westgate Buildings, the signs of this are unmistakeable, *e.g.*, the road in Westgate Buildings quite clearly covers up considerable portions that were meant to be seen. Adjoining the basement on the south side is a passage admitting to cellars beneath the present Westgate Buildings roadway. On the western side of one of these, but now covered up, is an ancient entrance which may have been a postern of some sort. So far as is known it has not been explored.

It is pretty evident that of the building as we now know it the oldest portion is that in which the concert room is situated, the other portions all having grown up later. It was therefore a small house, but with good rooms in it. It was probably built about 1570 upon the foundations of an older structure, and if the Norman remains already referred to were found here *in situ*, which is not clear, it may have been on the foundations of that structure that this building was erected. It is supposed that the builder, in Queen Elizabeth's reign, was Edward Clarke, a member of a family long resident at Chipley, Milverton. So far as I am aware, this conjecture is based entirely on the fact that the coat of arms on the great fireplace in the concert room seems to be the Clarke coat, showing the three shells, two bars, and three arrows of that coat.

Later, the house was certainly known as Hungerford House, and it is on record that Sir Walter Hungerford, of Farleigh Castle, " built himself a town house overlooking the western Borough walls." It was probably this house; and it raises the question whether such a building was merely an enlargement of Edward Clarke's house, or whether the attribution of the erection to Edward Clarke is a mistake and that there is some other way of accounting for the arms over the fireplace. The point needs elucidation.

In 1643 Sir Thomas Hungerford, K.B., garrisoned the house with supporters of the King's party and made it a barracks. One of the Hungerfords having married into Lord

Lexington's family the first *Lord Lexington* became the next owner, and the house was for a while known by his name.

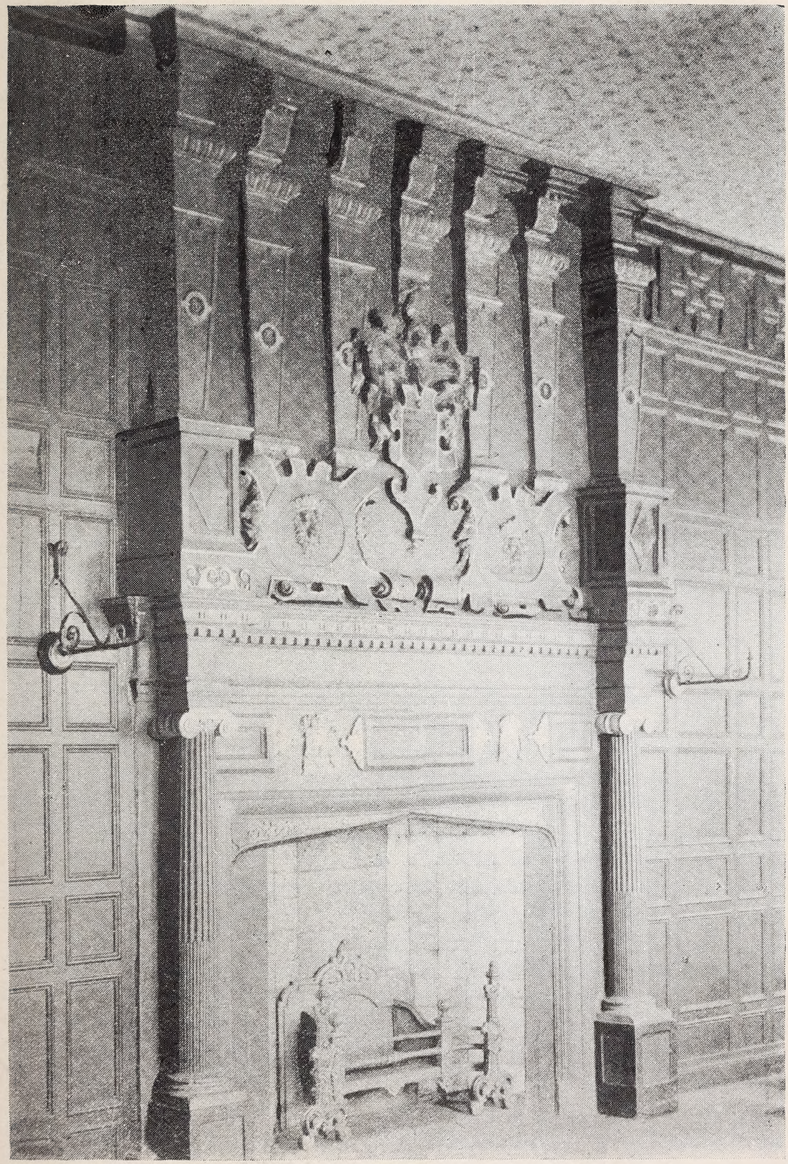
The second Lord Lexington gave the house to a Mrs. Savil, who had occupied it for many years, and it was then known as "*Mrs. Savil's Lodgings near the Hott Bath,*" and is so described in Gilmore's well-known map, dated 1694. Mrs. Savil married secondly Mr. William Skrine, of Bath, and about 1714 the house was known as "Skrine's Lower House."

In 1740 Princess Mary of Hesse, fourth daughter of King George II., accompanied by her niece, Princess Caroline, afterwards Queen of Denmark, lived here for a time, and the house was then described by John Wood as "the second best House in the city."

William Hetling, a wine merchant, was the next owner whose name remains. Since his time the house has been used for all sorts of purposes. It was the original home of the Bath and West Agricultural Society, who were succeeded in the tenancy by less distinguished bodies. Then in 1888 Canon Brooke when Rector of Bath secured a long lease of it from the Trustees of St. John's Hospital, and appropriated it to the uses of a Church House for the Abbey, which purposes it has served ever since and I hope will long serve.

Out of the proceeds of an Old-time Fair held at the Assembly Rooms in February, 1911, sufficient money was found to effect a certain measure of restoration and improvement of the house. Mr. S. Reay prepared a scheme, the execution of the whole of which would have cost, it was estimated, not less than £1,200. About half this sum was raised for an instalment of the work, and this has comprised the rebuilding of the north-west front facing Westgate buildings. The unsightly windows inserted towards the end of the 18th Century have been removed and replaced by the elegant arrangement now to be seen, with stone mullioned and transomed windows with Tudor heads filled in with lead glazing and fitted with wrought iron casements. The glass is of old English character, and there are armorial bearings in the four lights, the shields being (from the left) Hungerford, Skrine, Clarke, and the shield of the present Rector.

Improvements were made in the entrance hall, which was widened, the ceiling being adorned and strengthened with two great oak beams; some good new oak work was also placed at the head of a stair leading to the back of the principal staircase, which itself having been badly painted over was thoroughly cleaned and restored to its original condition.



FIREPLACE, ABBEY CHURCH HOUSE.

Much still remains to be done. A handsome stone doorway should give access to the entrance hall; the windows to the right of the main door as you enter will have to be altered and brought back to their original character, and the same will have to be done on the north side of the house facing Hetling Court. In the concert-room so far only a beginning has been made.

This room was originally only 30 feet long but, the adjoining room on the east having been taken in to give more accommodation, it is necessary to treat the two rooms now as one.

The Fireplace, which is a very fine example displaying, as Mr. Reay says, unusual purity of classical detail for so early a period, has unfortunately been painted, and this painting and gilding must be removed, and the beauty of the stonework revealed. The grate will be replaced by a cast-iron Sussex fire-back with andirons, and it is hoped that antique examples may be obtained.

The existing panelling will be removed, thoroughly cleaned and refixed, and the rest of the room will be panelled with English oak, and the whole will be wax polished.

There will be a modelled plaster ceiling of appropriate design, and the room will be lighted by antique brass candelabra. For all these good things, however, we must wait till after the war!

Thanks were accorded Mr. Boyd for his reception of the party and for his interesting notes.

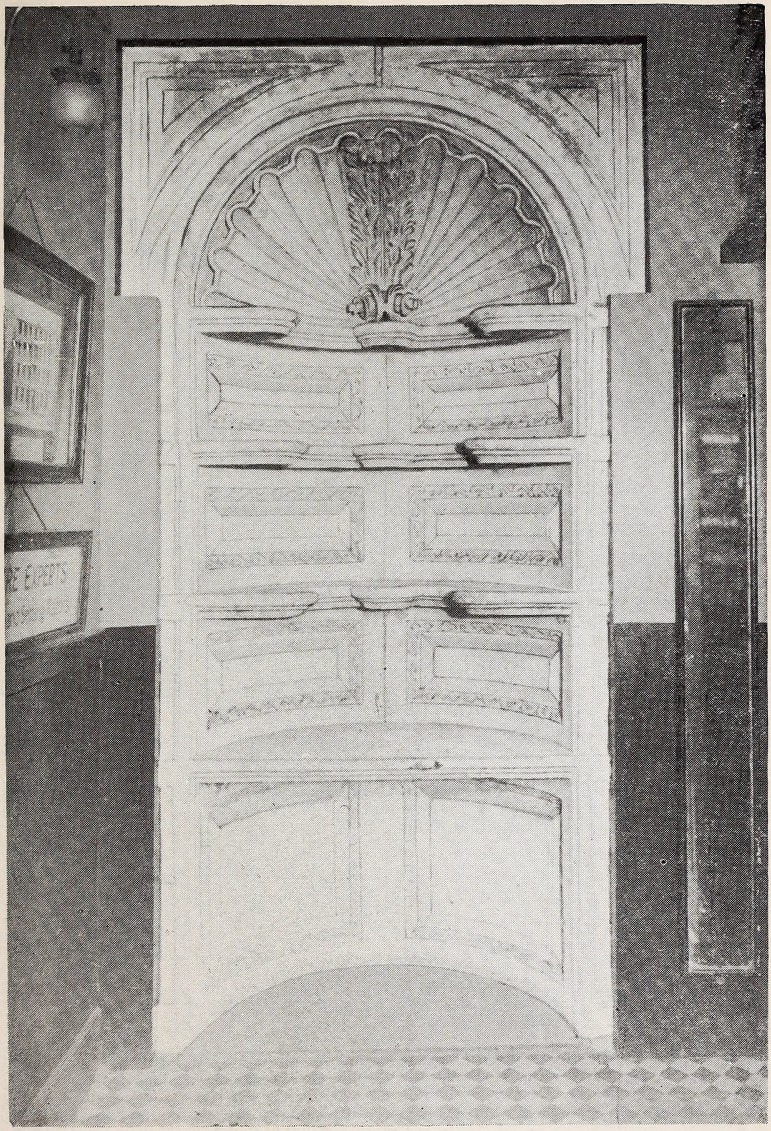
Notes by Mr. Mowbray A. Green, F.R.I.B.A.

This house has been considerably altered, but on the north side there still exists a large room below the present ground floor level. The windows in this room have been raised and there was originally another storey over. This is shown by the relieving arch above the larger area on the north side where there also remains over the east jamb the stone which previously formed the terminal of the outside drip moulding, the moulding itself having been cut off. West of this window there previously existed another window, similar to this one, and on the other side of it there is a small window which has been walled up. Of these windows more later. It is clear, therefore, that originally the ground around the building was at a very much lower level than at present, and it is said that an archway previously existed leading westwards from the

front arch under the present street to the further side of the road. The low level of the ground at the back of Westgate Buildings would seem to show that this theory is correct, the King's Mead, now covered by the district on the west side of the Borough Walls, that is, Avon Street, Milk Street, Kingsmead Square, etc., running down to the river bank.

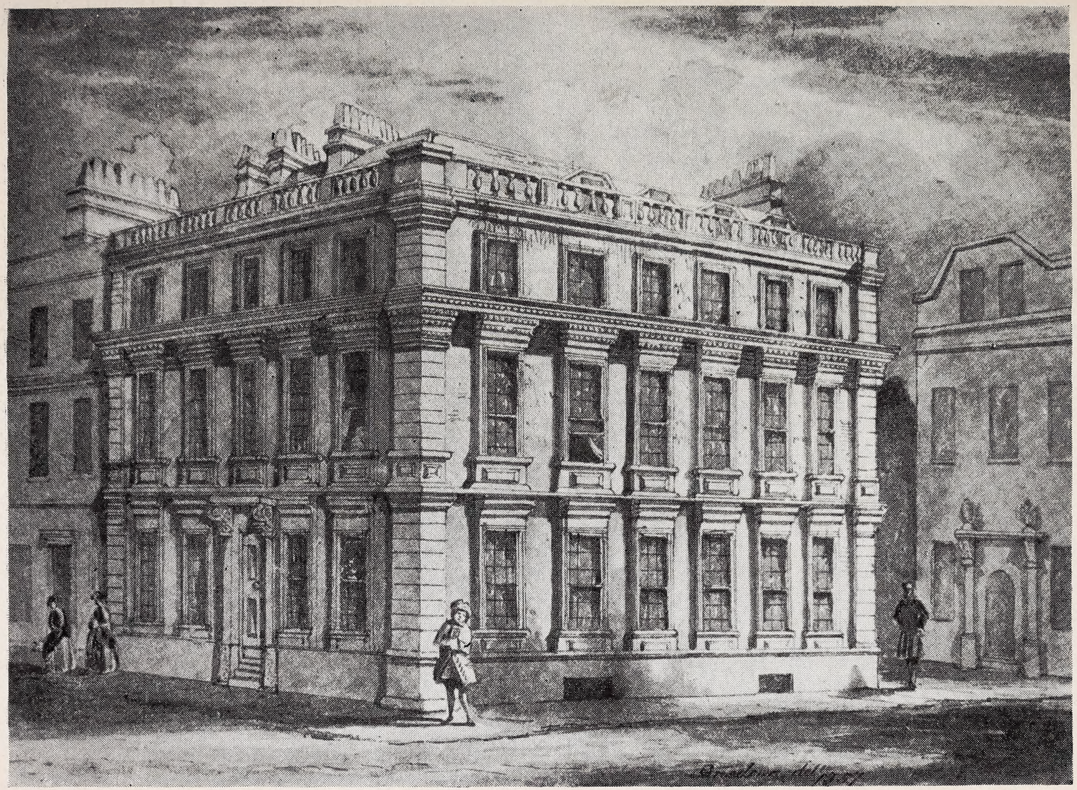
The present entrance to the lower storey is down a flight of stone steps under the south wall, which is 3ft. 2in. thick and has a 4-centred arch over, in two stones. Above this is an oak lintel 13in. wide by 6in. high. Above this again on the outside are two large oak beams, the outer one of which has been first of all chamfered and afterwards cut away entirely, in order to give access down the flight of steps to the room under. All this shows that the steps are of a later date, and probably the ground outside was at much the same level. It may have been a trifle higher. A little above the oak beam there is a stone relieving arch through the full thickness of the wall. The doorway itself is 4ft. 8in. wide and at present 5ft. 7in. high to the springing of the head. Three of the four iron hooks remain upon which the hinges of the pair of doors were hung. The doors opened inwards.

The room is 17ft. 6in. wide and about 23ft. long to the first wall on the east side and the remaining length of the room from the wall just mentioned to the further end eastwards is also about 23ft., the width of this portion being about 16ft 6in. There are three moulded stone corbels in each of the side walls of the first room, 12in. wide and projecting 6in or 7in. from the walls. Upon these running from north to south rested 12in. by 12in. oak beams which supported the floor joists and into which the joists were tenoned. The evidence of all this is seen on the north wall near the window. The height from the floor to the top of the corbels is at present 5ft. 10in., so that the floor has been probably raised about a foot. The fact of the corbel in the north wall to the east of the entrance door being a complete one points to the assumption that at some time the room was of a total length of 46ft., but the eastern portion may have been added. As there is a relieving arch in the eastern end of the south wall it looks as if there had been another entrance in this same wall and as if the room had certainly been divided at some time into two parts. As far as we can see, the room was lighted from the north, but the windows have been altered a good deal, the heads and sills being raised and one of the windows being blocked up for the most part. It is hoped that those in authority will be able to see their way to taking away this



[Photo, Mr. Lewin, Herald Office.

STONE CUPBOARD, 15, WESTGATE STREET.



Reproduced from engraving lent by Mr. George Gregory].

HOUSE WHERE BEAU NASH LIVED.

+ WHERE HE DIED.

masonry. The opening of the windows was about 1ft. 10in. high and 3ft. 5in. wide in the clear with a centre mullion. Part of the oak lintel which supported the internal portion of the wall still exists in the pier between the windows. There are two recesses in the east wall with square joint and chamfered head, each with a stone trough cut out of the solid stone. The use of these is not known.

The entrance doorways now walled up, leading to the storey over this room, can still be seen in the passage at the top of the steps, and the floor level here was then at the level of the second step down, so that it is worth consideration as to whether this floor did not in fact always exist, but that when the ground became raised in the meadow and around the building and difficulty was experienced in reaching the lower room, the steps were inserted to give access to the higher level. For the same reason probably the flight of steps in the east wall was erected. Here also there was a door at the bottom of the flight.

The lower portion of the original bay window in the west wall abutting on Westgate Buildings can also be seen.

Crossing the road from the Abbey Church House to a house in Westgate Buildings with a basement and sub-basement, it was seen how great was the drop from the front to the back. Thence passing Citizen House, the windows in the basement of the adjoining building are seen to be half buried, thus again shewing that the ground has been raised, of course since the building was erected.

The party then went to 15, Westgate Street. In a room on the ground floor is a very interesting stone shell head cupboard (illustrated), built in the wall. This had recently been opened out by Mr. W. B. Rolfe, having been hidden from sight by panelling.

The members then went on to the Sawclose to view the two houses occupied by Beau Nash (illustrated). The one on the left, built in 1720, now part of the Theatre, was his residence for several years. On the right may be seen the handsome doorway of the house in which he died in 1761. A stone tablet built into the wall records his death.

The afternoon ramble closed with a visit to General Wolfe's house in Trim Street. He died in the hour of victory at the Battle of Quebec, September, 1759.

Mr. Green was heartily thanked on the proposal of Mr. Thos. S. Bush for his kindly guidance and interesting information.

ROYAL MINERAL WATER HOSPITAL, QUEEN SQUARE AND GAY STREET.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21ST, 1917.

ROYAL MINERAL WATER HOSPITAL.

The party were received in the Board Room by the President (Colonel Kirkwood). Colonel Kirkwood recapitulated the chief points of the hospital's history. The reason for its foundation went back to 1597, when an Act was passed permitting diseased and Impotent Poor to come to Bath from all over England for the benefit of the waters, and when they had arrived they had to live as best they could on the gifts of the richer visitors. Indeed, magistrates would make an order sending invalids suffering from rheumatism to Bath, who had to live on what they could get. The beggars of Bath became very celebrated at that time, and were a very pushing body, in fact, "Go to Bath," became a saying when people were asked for anything very persistently. Subsequently in 1714 another Act was passed stopping the sending of beggars to Bath, but they still kept coming, and it was felt necessary to start a hospital for those who really ought to receive the benefit of the waters. Dr. Oliver and others had a good deal of difficulty in finding a site. Plans were first drawn for a hospital for 60 patients, and the first site selected was one offered by Mr. Gay (whose name was perpetuated in Gay street) in the Ambury. Then it was found that 60 was too few, and a proposal was made for 150, but Mr. Gay would not give a larger site. The old plan was then adopted, but this time the scheme broke down because the tenant of the site in the Ambury refused to go out till the end of his lease. Just at that time in 1737 an Act for the suppression of playhouses was passed, and the theatre and two dwelling-houses (at the corner of the Borough walls and Union Street) adjoining the Bath Rectory house, was purchased by the trustees. Wood prepared the designs (a copy of which hangs in the Board Room). The theatre was pulled down in May, 1738, the foundation stone laid July 7, 1738, the Act of Incorporation with Mr. Thomas Carew as first President, was passed in 1739, and in 1742 the hospital was opened. The earliest portion of the hospital was that nearest Union Street, but an extra storey had been added to Wood's design and other enlargements made. Wood's design included a representation of the Good Samaritan in the tympanum. It was ordered and paid for, but never put up. Now they

had the Royal Arms instead, and Wood's subject was transferred to the tympanum of the new building, but it was not the original stone. In the middle of last century it was found insufficient, and all sorts of sites were suggested for a larger establishment, one near the Victoria Park, but it was not convenient to convey the hot mineral water so far. Accordingly the Bath Rectory house (which was west of Parsonage lane), and grounds, were purchased, and the newer portion of the hospital erected.

The Rector of Bath commented that a very handsome sum was paid for the site, of which he enjoyed the proceeds.

Colonel Kirkwood said that Dr. Oliver, Mr. Henry Hoare (the banker), Lady Elizabeth Hastings, and Beau Nash were staunch supporters of the hospital, and Ralph Allen gave the stone free from his quarries. Colonel Kirkwood showed the portion of Roman pavement found in excavations which was specially interesting because it had been replaced in situ, after having been taken up and cleaned, the bit of tesselated pavement found in the excavations under the demolished Sedan Inn, now on the wall under the laboratory, the portion of the old city wall near the nurses' quarters and the old burial ground where 237 interments were made. which was the only piece of the wall remaining, and also the only bit of the wall of the old Sedan Inn Brewery.

Mr. T. Kirby (the Registrar), made a few remarks upon the pictures on the wall of the Board Room. Many of them were by William Hoare (a member of the Board), who was the portrait painter of Bath before Gainsborough. These included the Goddess of Health, Henry Wright, a surgeon who lived in Trim Street, and one depicting Dr. Wm. Oliver (the inventor of the biscuit), and Jerry Pierce, the surgeon, receiving patients. Other portraits were those of Sir William Cockburn (by Barker), who lived at Lansdown, great grandfather of Sir Richard Cockburn, a member of the Board to-day, Thomas Carew, the first President (a photograph of the portrait by Beech at his house in Oxford), Beau Nash, who was Treasurer, General Jervis, another Master of the Ceremonies, James S. Brymer, a great benefactor especially to the chapel, Dr. Henry Harrington (also by Beech), Ralph Allen, and the Morrises. He also drew attention to a basin and ewer, the property of Oliver Cromwell (given by Mr. Melmoth Walters, of Batheaston, a member of the Board), and a series of drawings of old Bath by Benjamin Morris in 1770, one which clearly shows the angels on the west front of Bath Abbey, alternately ascending and descending.

Colonel Kirkwood was heartily thanked by Colonel H. P. P. Leigh, and Mr. Kirby by Mr. Bush.

15, QUEEN SQUARE AND 41, GAY STREET.

Mr. Mowbray A. Green then took charge of the party, and under his guidance 15, Queen Square and 41, Gay Street were visited. The interior of the former, said Mr. Green, is quite the gem of Bath. This house was Wood's pet, and the staircase is the finest of the period to be found in the district. It is of Spanish mahogany and oak, and the way in which the mahogany is inlaid into the oak was worthy of special notice. The balusters were, as usual, in groups of three to a tread, and the staircase presents a very beautiful symmetrical effect, and is ornamental without being too florid. The dado is panelled throughout, and at the bottom is a recess to receive a mahogany lattice folding gate, which, when opened, stretches across the stairs. That and a similar one at 41, Gay Street, are the only two lattice doors of the kind in Bath. Above the dado is a profusion of plaster ornament, the central panel being a representation of St. Cecilia at the organ, and the cornice is very fine. Mr. Green drew particular attention to the door, a very fine specimen of the work of the period, with the original big hinges and its unusually fine brass rim lock. Curiously there were two sets of heavy bolts, so the door could be double-bolted, at the lock side and the hinge side. A visit was also paid to some of the rooms in order to see the three good examples of fireplaces, the brass hinges and locks, which are practically as good to-day as when they were erected nearly 200 years ago, and a powder closet was noticed. The interest of 15, Queen Square is that architecturally it has remained untouched and unspoilt. Though called 41, Gay Street, the house in which Wood the younger lived, was really part of the Queen Square plan. The house has a fine mahogany staircase, but its feature is the curious position of the principal rooms which have an apse at each end, and look diagonally across Queen Square. Yet all the space in the house is made use of, though it necessitates two small triangular rooms at each side. The doors of the room, which are on the curve are very interesting, and there is some rich carving. The curve of the landings outlined with artistic mahogany balusters is very effective as seen from the hall. Mr. Green mentioned that the two houses visited belonged to the high-water period of woodwork.

Mr. Green was heartily thanked by Mr. T. S. Bush.

THE BLUECOAT SCHOOL AND MASONIC HALL.

September 19th, 1917.

The final tour of the present season was held on September 19th, 1917, when Mr. Thomas S. Bush (the Hon. Secretary) took a party to the Blue Coat School, the East Gate, Ralph Allen's Town House, and the Masonic Hall.

Blue Coat School.

At the Blue Coat School the Treasurer (Sir John Stevens), who explained that under the trust the Treasurer was Chairman of the Committee, bid the members welcome to the school. The school, he proceeded, was founded in the reign of Queen Anne in 1711, so that it had now reached its 206th year. It was founded under the name of the Charity School, and it was not until 10 years later that it was known as the Blue Coat School. The earliest record as regards the school was the account of the proceedings at a meeting held on May 26, 1711, at which the constitution of the school was fixed. It was stated in the record that the chief design of the school was "the education of poor children in the knowledge and practice of the Christian religion as practised and taught in the Church of England, such children to be living in or near the city of Bath." The clothing of the boys at the beginning was something resembling the clothes of the boys at Christ's Hospital, but that had to be given up on account of expense. The school was opened with a very great flourish of trumpets, there was a formal procession to the Guildhall, the boys had a breakfast, and then went in procession to the Abbey, where a special service was held, attended by the Mayor. Forty-nine boys were first taken and taught in three rooms, over what was known as the Free School. (Mr. T. S. Bush: That would be the Grammar School.)

Sir John Stevens said the Trustees were much encouraged by the result of the foundation of the Boys' School, and resolved to have a Girls' School on the same lines, which was not held in the same building, but managed by the same Trustees. It was opened for 30 girls, and held in a portion of a neighbouring house—Bridewell house—which was granted by the Mayor and Corporation. The schools were carried on in separate houses until 1722, and then they entered upon the joint occupancy of the new building erected for the accom-

modation of 50 boys and 50 girls, on the site of Bridewell House, leased by the Corporation for that purpose. That building no longer existed. It was replaced by the present one in 1860, erected in a slightly different position, but quite close to the site of the other. During the excavations for the foundations a piece of Roman pavement was found, which they would see afterwards, although not on the original level. In 1713 it was decided that the children on leaving should be placed out at service or apprenticed, and that had been the custom ever since, and he hoped it would continue to be as long as the school lasted. They would notice the boys and girls were not only housed in the same school, but were taught together in all the subjects which they learned together. Sir John mentioned some of the notable names that had been associated with the management of the school—Beau Nash, Ralph Allen, Archbishop Magee, and Canon Fleming. He would like to correct the erroneous impression that it was a rich foundation. The school started without any endowment, and was maintained largely on the results of church collections, donations and subscriptions. They had contributed over 112 old boys to the Army and Navy, most of whom enlisted voluntarily.

Sir John Stevens was warmly thanked on behalf of the members by the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn.

The following notes taken from Prebendary H. M. Scarth's "Aquae Solis" were read by Mr. T. S. Bush :—

On the site of the present Blue Coat School, which was re-built in 1860, another tesselated pavement was found. This is now laid in an anti-chamber of the building, immediately over the spot where it was discovered. The pattern consists of figures of dolphins and two other animals, one of which is a sea-horse, and the other has the head and hoofs of a deer, but the hinder part is broken away. One of the dolphins is nearly obliterated. The animals have red streamers flying from different parts of the body, as is common in other pavements found in this country, giving life to the subjects delineated. The Tesseræ are cubes of stone or brick, and the colours red, blue, brown or white.

The party having inspected the Roman pavement, proceeded to the East Gate (the only city gate remaining, illustrated, with notes, in our Proceedings for 1909. The position of the ferry leading to Spring Gardens on the Bathwick side of the river was pointed out.

Then Ralph Allen's town house was visited, but unfortunately only a portion of this could be seen as the gate leading to it was locked, and no tidings of the key could be obtained.

The Masonic Hall.

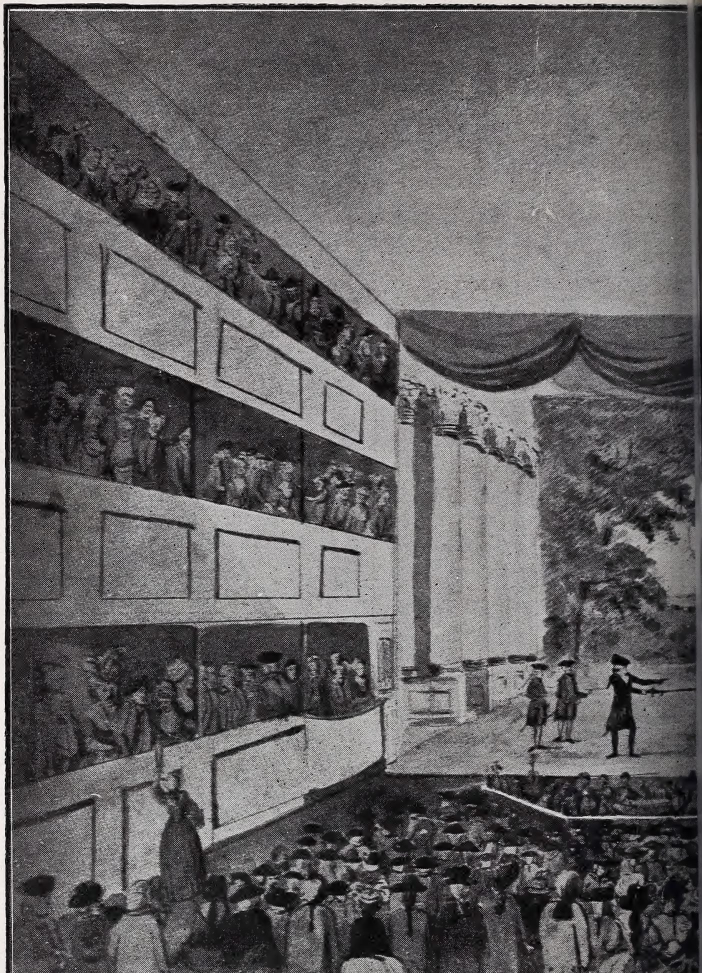
Finally, a visit was paid to the Masonic Hall in Orchard Street, where they were received by Mr. G. Norman, Mr. Egbert Lewis and Mr. Walter Pitt. When they were assembled in the hall, Mr. Norman read a paper on the history of the building, which, he said, stood on ground that was formerly the orchard belonging to the Benedictine Priory, and took them back to the times of Beau Nash and the brilliant life of the 18th Century. The drama existed in Bath long before that period. The municipal records referred to some 30 different companies that visited Bath during the latter part of the 16th and early years of the 17th century. The first building that could be called a theatre stood on part of the site of the Mineral Water Hospital, and was erected by Mr. George Trim, who also built Trim Street. When the building of the hospital was commenced in 1738, the dramatic performances were transferred to Kingsmead Street, at the rear of the premises now occupied by Messrs. Fuller, but the building was only a room 50ft. by 25ft., with a gallery at the end—later it became the Jews' Synagogue, and was pulled down about 45 years ago. Poor as it was, it was once honoured by Royalty, the *Bath Journal* recording that on July 16, 1750, "the Prince and Princess of Wales drank tea at Ralph Allen's and afterwards went to the play." On October 22 of the same year the Orchard Street Theatre was opened, the first performance consisting of King Henry V. At the start it suffered from the fatal Bath habit of divided interests, for the Kingsmead Theatre made a desperate bid for public support, and in addition theatrical performances were introduced at Mr. Simpson's Rooms (now the Institution) Bath could not support all three, and all three languished and might have collapsed but for the energy of the Palmers, father and son. John Palmer, by buying out his fellow proprietors and then getting possession of the Kingsmead Theatre, started the theatre on a career of success greater than he could have anticipated. By the energy of the younger Palmer an Act was secured making it possible for the King to grant a patent—the only patent theatres in existence being Drury Lane and Covent Garden—and in 1768 George III. granted letters patent by which the Bath Theatre became the first Theatre Royal in the Provinces. During the latter part of the 18th Century and the beginning of the 19, the Bath Theatre was, as Percy Fitzgerald said, "the dramatic nursery for the London stage." Mr. Norman spoke in some detail of Sheridan, the Linleys, "The Rivals," "The School for

Scandal," Quin, the success of Mrs. Siddons, Miss Kemble, Miss Wallis, and Robert William Elliston, acknowledging his indebtedness for the information to "The Bath Stage," written by Mr. Belville S. Penley (published at *The Herald* Press). The theatre was not large enough to accommodate the audiences and the new theatre in Beauford Square was built, and the old theatre closed on July 13, 1805. Mr. Norman pointed out the extent of the old theatre, which had two galleries, and comprised the two ground floor halls, the partition not existing. After a few years Father Ainsworth purchased the building for the Roman Catholic congregation, who found their chapel in Corn Street too small. It was opened on December 3, 1809, and was used till 1863, when St. John's was built. It had been considerably altered to fit it for public worship. The stage was removed and the present columns were erected. The galleries were removed, and a new gallery made running back from the pillars at the partition. Soon after 1863 the building was sold to the Freemasons, and had been used by them as a Masonic Hall ever since. The building had not been greatly altered in plan. A new reredos (from St. Michael's) was placed there, with paintings by the last of the Barker's, the hall was divided into two by a partition, the gallery raised to form the present supper room. The big picture of "The Pool of Bethesda" was painted by William Hoare. The vaults beneath the building were still the property of the Mission of St. John, and there were buried Father Ainsworth, the purchaser of the property, the Rev. William Combes, Vicar-General of the Western District, and the Rev. Francis Elloy, a doctor of the Sorbonne. One of the vaults was inscribed: "James O'Ferral Ambrose, Major-General in the Austrian Service and Chamberlain to his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, died 1828." Another was to Armand Dumesnial, Marquis de Sommey, captain of cavalry in the service of his Most Christian Majesty in 1786, died in Bath 1814, and another to Teresa Virwan, Lady Trimelston, died 1824.

Mr. Norman was heartily thanked by Colonel Clayton.

One or two interesting old pictures relating to the Theatre were shown by Mr. Egbert Lewis, and also a number of old playbills.

The experiment of holding a series of town rambles this summer in order to keep alive the interest of the members of the Bath and District branch of the Somersetshire Archæo-



INTERIOR OF OLD BATH

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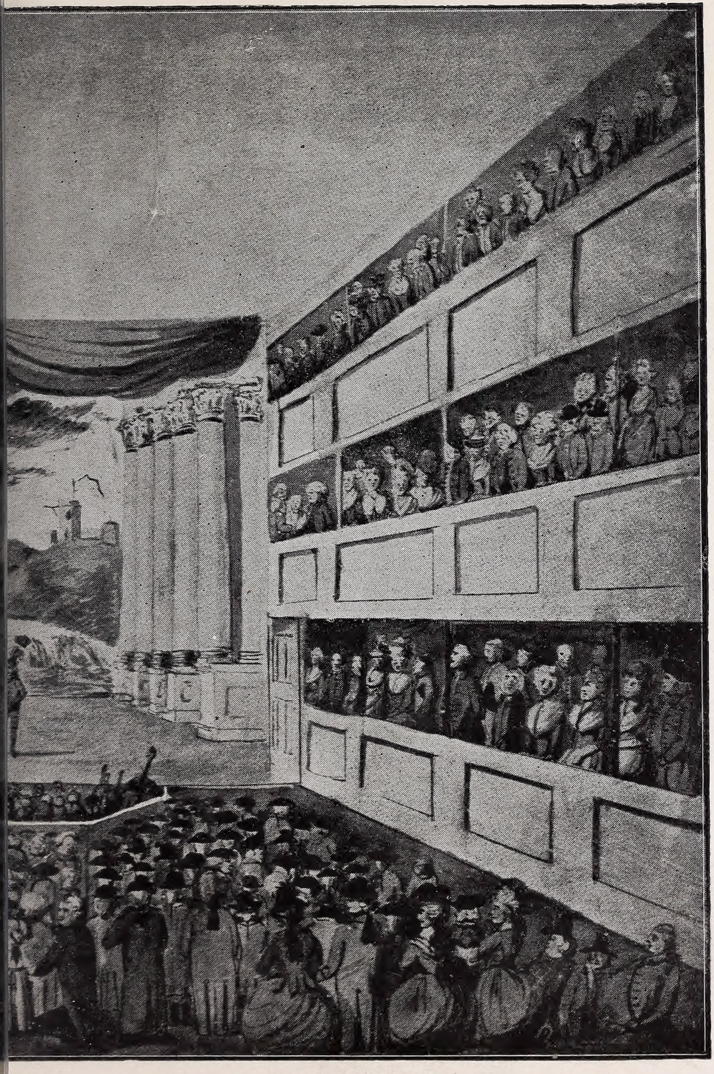


EATRE, ORCHARD STREET.
Mr Mowbray A. Green.

logical and Natural History Society has undoubtedly been a success, and Mr. Thomas S. Bush has been justified in his efforts. Four very pleasant afternoons have been spent and that the members found them interesting is shown by the fact that there has been a good attendance each time. The number would probably have been larger if the excursions could have been arranged as in former years until war restrictions put an end to motor charabanc travelling, but these walks round Bath have had an educational value. There is a good deal about Bath which residents do not know—that has been quite evident — and the association with this Local Branch Society has given them entrance to places they might not otherwise have secured, for instance, the Masonic Hall.

four largest ones being near the entrance to the tumulus and standing 7—8 feet high above ground, and with a girth of 18—20 feet. Around the base of the tumulus is a curb of great stones 8—10 feet long, laid on end and touching each other, and they curve in towards the entrance as the wall does at Stoney Littleton.

Approaching the entrance we see a huge stone covered with spirals, the loose ends of which are carried round in concentric circles so as to group the three principal spirals together. Lozenge patterns fill in the end portions of the stone. Above the entrance is a horizontal stone, carved with a remarkable approximation to moulding, and of a distinctly architectural character, and the whole effect suggests the conception of a façade.

Behind the large stone and between it and the entrance, lies a large flat stone, which roughly agrees in size with the entrance and which probably sealed the entrance.

In 1845 a writer speaks of this stone as already in an inclined position as if it had been pressed back from the entrance. The entrance does not appear to have been concealed by earth, as in the Stoney Littleton tumulus, although stones may have been heaped up against it to a certain extent.

These tumuli, being grouped in cemeteries, implied a more or less settled state of society, and they seem to have been respected till the coming of the Danes, who had no difficulty in finding the entrance when they plundered the tumulus in the year 861.

We now enter the passage leading to the central chamber, which is formed of large stones 6—8 feet high, and roofed with flag stones of great size. These stones have carvings of a similar character to those on the outside stone, which not only cover the exposed portions of the stones, but extend over them in places where a tool could not have reached them. The explanation is, that the stones were probably first collected on the site and carved on the spot, without any definite reference to the position they would occupy in the structure.

The builders seem to have endeavoured to display, as far as possible, the carved portions, but in some cases the stones may have been found suitable for positions where the carvings would not appear, and so the decoration was sacrificed to the needs of construction. This same feature is found at Loughcrew, and in the tumulus of Gavr'inis, in Brittany.

The entrance passage is 62 feet long, and at first about 5—6 feet high, but about 14 feet from the entrance the large flat side stones incline together, making it necessary to crawl

on hands and knees for about 6 feet, after which there is no further difficulty, and we arrive in the central chamber, which may be described as an irregular hexagon with a height of 19ft. 6in., and an area of 18 feet by 21 feet, having three recesses of unequal size placed in the E., N. and S., and which give the plan its cruciform appearance. The construction is exactly similar to that at Stoney Littleton, only on a much larger scale, viz., by large flat stones horizontally laid, projecting inwards, one over the other until closed by a single stone. This sort of roofing is also found in Greece, Asia Minor, and Egypt, and is the oldest style known to the world. Somewhat of an architectural character is given to the central chamber by the carrying round the walls of the upright course of stones which line the passage and in places support the roof and the carvings for which Newgrange is noted are found mostly on these stones. In each of the three recesses is a large granite basin; the one in the east recess is the best in form, the one in the north recess is broken and in the centre of the chamber, is a much more carefully wrought basin, which was found within the basin in the east recess, which seems to have been its proper position.

No definite proof has been found at Newgrange as to the mode of burial—the tumulus having been long ago rifled of its contents—but judging from the evidence found at Loughcrew, where the tumuli are of a similar period and which had not been rifled, cremation was the method mostly used, but as at Stoney Littleton so at Loughcrew it seems that cremation and inhumation were practised at the same time, and this was probably also the case at Newgrange.

The stone which was used for the building is the Lower Silurian rock, which is procurable within a radius of a few miles, and is easily worked out in large flat surfaces, not very hard, and therefore suitable for the carvings. The granite of which the basins are made seems to resemble that found in the Wicklow Mountains. The remarkable carvings found in this tumulus have afforded a wide field of conjecture for antiquaries; some have thought them to be Phœnician in character, others actually constructed an alphabet from them, others considered them sacred tomb writings. But our veteran archæologist, Sir Richard Colt Hoare, rejected such fancies, and in his "Tour in Ireland" said: "the marks I have observed on many of these stones bore very little resemblance to letters, and a great similarity to the ornaments I have found on the ancient British urns discovered under our tumuli in Wiltshire.

The late George Coffey, who, as Keeper of Irish Antiquities

in the National Museum, Dublin, did such a splendid amount of research into these subjects, considers these carvings merely represent the style of decoration of the period, and when taken in conjunction with the ingenious construction of the monument, mark the beginning of decorative art, and architecture in Ireland. The ornaments consist of spirals, concentric circles, chevrons, lozenges, whole, halved, and quartered, cups and dots and other figures, and it is probable that some of the figures were in their origin symbolical, but while a figure may be used symbolically it is not necessary to see in every figure symbolical meaning.

Dowth.

This great tumulus is surrounded by a curb of large stones, as at Newgrange, but has no retaining wall and no circle of standing stones. In 1846 a great gap existed in the west face of the mound, caused by stones having been removed for macadamising the roads in the neighbourhood, and a passage somewhat similar to that at Newgrange had been exposed.

In 1847 a committee of the Royal Irish Academy obtained permission from the proprietor to explore the mound, and it was decided to follow up the exposed passage on the west side and a cruciform chamber and some minor chambers were discovered.

In the cruciform chamber the broken remains of a granite basin similar to those at Newgrange, were found.

In 1885 fresh excavations were made and structures of a totally different character were discovered. Commencing at the north side of the known entrance to the central chamber an opening was made that led into a passage which terminated at either end in a circular cell carefully roofed over with corbelling stones. These beehive cells, for such they practically were, are examples of the subterranean chambers so common in Ireland to which the inhabitants retreated in times of danger.

Thus the Dowth tumulus differs from Newgrange in that it has served a double purpose—the central chamber for burial purposes, as in Newgrange—but the northern chambers as dwelling places for the living, and this is borne out by the varying contents of the two sets of chambers, the latter containing numerous animal bones of various kinds, but none human, also various articles of adornment, such as bronze pins and buckles, and, in one instance, an article of iron.

The probability is that the tumulus was at first used as a burial place, like Newgrange, but in much later times was

used as a dwelling place in times of danger, such, for instance, as the Danish invasions, and as a place of storage for food and worldly goods. The inscribed stones of Dowth are much inferior to those at Newgrange, but there are some worthy of special notice, viz., some important figures of suns on one of the boundary stones ; a curious rayed figure within a circle, and above it a small spiral of four turns ; some interesting examples of ship figures, so frequently found on rock surfaces in Scandinavia—they are meant to be rude representations of boats or ships, either with or without men in them. The particular interest of these markings is that they are identical with those found in the Baltic. The haphazard way in which the ships are placed on the stone, without order or uniformity of position, is characteristic of the Swedish examples, which are ascribed to the Bronze Age.

Loughcrew.

The Loughcrew Hills are situated about two miles east of the town of Oldcastle, at the western end of the County of Meath. The range extends some three miles, and three main summits attain the height of 800—900 feet, and on these summits are the most important of the remarkable series of sepulchral cairns which constitute the pre-historic cemetery of Loughcrew.

The cairns extend over a distance of two miles. They were first examined by Conwell, in 1864, and he says that the stones from the tumuli were then being carted away in large numbers. The most interesting cairn is that known as the Tomb of Ollamh Fodhla, and the whole cemetery is assumed to be the ancient cemetery of Taillten, mentioned in the Old Annals of Ireland.

Ollamh Fodhla, King of Ireland, is said to have been the first law-giver of Ireland, and to have established the Triennial Convention at Tara, where the nobles and learned men met to revise the laws and examine the historical records ; he died, according to the Four Masters, 1277 B.C., and is stated to have been buried at Taillten.

In the Leabhar na h'Uidhri (Book of the Dun Cow) is a poem in which the following verses occur :—

> The three cemeteries of Idolaters are
> The cemetery of *Taillten* the select,
> The ever clean cemetery of *Cruachan*
> And the cemetery of *Brugh*.
> The host of great Meath were buried
> In the middle of the lordly Brugh ;
> The great Ultonians used to bury
> At Taillten with pomp.

Generally speaking the Kings of Tara were buried at Brugh, the Ulster Chiefs at Taillten, and the Connaught Chiefs at Cruachan.

The cairn is about 20 feet high, has a diameter of 38 yards, and is enclosed by a curb of large stones as at Newgrange and Dowth. At the north side, and about four feet from the curb, is a massive carved stone, known as the Hag's Chair, which is supposed by Conwell to have been the judgment seat of Ollamh Fodhla. It is ornamented with concentric circles, cup markings, and other figures but the back of the stone has been much broken away since 1865.

Of the incised stones there are but few with the returning spiral, single spirals are numerous, also free concentric circles —the chevron is well represented, and there are examples of the lozenge pattern, also halved and quartered lozenges.

Evidence of the solar cult is abundant in the form of rayed suns and wheel-like figures, and the cross in a circle, which is also a sun symbol.

These sun symbols were frequent as religious emblems in the Bronze Age, if not in the Neolithic period.

Perhaps the most interesting example at Loughcrew is a rayed cup and circle, which bears a close resemblance to the well-known Egyptian sign for the Solar energy.

The largest cairn of all at Loughcrew is what is called a Cenotaph, or memorial mound.

Canon Greenwell, who explored the cairn called Willie Howe, in Yorkshire, says:—" I had always disbelieved in the erection of such memorials as Cenotaphs, at the time when these barrows were constructed. I am forced, however, by experience to admit the possibility that this very large mass of chalk stones was thrown up merely to commemorate and not to contain the body of, some great personage."

In " Silva Gadelica," by Standish O'Grady, is the following translation from the Book of Lismore:—

" A King of Munster asked to whom belonged two large mounds, and was informed that they belonged to two sons of the King of Ulidia, who were slain by supernatural agencies, and their bodies reduced to dust and ashes by the breath of a magical hound, so that 'no blood, nor flesh, nor bone was ever found of them.' Theirs then are the two mounds concerning which thou questionest me, but mould and sand excepted whosoever should open them would not find them to contain the smallest thing."

As the Book of Lismore is a MS. of the 15th Century, it is interesting to note that the tradition that some mounds were " blind mounds " was handed down to a late period. This

may account for the fact that this particular mound at Loughcrew has not been opened, and may, possibly, be the explanation of the Knowth mound at Brugh-na-Boine being also intact as far as is known.

One idea in connection with the erection of these Cenotaphs seems to be that when from some cause the relatives were unable to obtain the body of the deceased for burial—the ghost could not enter Hades, but was obliged to wander until a burial mound had been raised for him. The whole subject is interestingly treated by Fraser in " The Golden Bough."

Knocknarea and Carrowmore.

Between the town of Sligo and the Bay of Sligo, rises the huge mass of Knocknarea—its base washed by the Atlantic waves, its summit rising 1,078 feet above, and in this magnificent site stands the great cairn called the Mescaun Meav, 35 feet high. This cairn was described in 1779 as 650 feet in circumference, with a diameter of 100 feet at the top, but when Petrie visited it in 1837 it had shrunk to 590 feet in circumference and 80 feet diameter at the top, having in the interval been used as a quarry. Local tradition has always asserted that this mound was the burial place of Meave, the notorious Queen of Connaught, who plays such an adventurous part in the great Irish epic called the Tain-bo-Cuailnge.

But we are informed by the old annals that she was buried at Rath Croghan, in the north of County Roscommon, which was the burial place of the Kings of Connaught, so it is possible that tradition, which has associated her name with this cairn, may be right to this extent—that it is a cenotaph erected in her own territory and on this commanding height to the Warrior Queen. The cairn itself has never been explored, in spite of the fact that the local tradition states that the Queen Meav was buried in the middle of the mound in a golden chariot.

However, that may be, Queen Meav has attained to distinction for she has found her way into English fairyland under the title of Queen Mab.

When the race of the Danaans were in their turn conquered by the Milesians, they are fabled to have retired to underground dwellings, and by the exercise of the magical arts for which they were famous to have existed in the interior of raths and green knolls, gradually dwindling in size by living underground. They were then called the " good people " or fairies, and were dreaded, but not reverenced, for the amount of mischief attributed to them was wonderful, con-

sidering their very small stature. In British folk lore the tradition is carried on, and Queen Meav of Connaught becomes the Queen Mab of Shakespeare. Ben Jonson describes her as " the mistress fairy " whilst Herrick gives her an unamiable character as well, for if the careless housewife displease her " Mab will pinch her toe."

From the summit of Knocknarea we look down on the battlefields of Northern Moytura, where in pre-historic times the Danaans fought and defeated the combined forces of the Formorians and Firbolgs. The battle lasted four days, and the result is seen in the pre-historic cemetery of Carrowmore, which lies close by and extends for about a mile and a half.

Wood Martin, who has made a careful survey of the whole district estimates that the monuments may originally have amounted to 200, but they are now reduced to 70—they consist of stone cairns with sepulchral chambers, cromleachs, stone circles, etc. As to inscribed stones they are comparatively few, and consist principally of cup markings and concentric circles, but there is one sepulchral chamber, the mound of which has been almost totally destroyed, which forms a remarkable exception. In it are some curious markings, difficult to find elsewhere, and consisting of a combination apparently of lozenge and spiral. One stone is a symbol of sun worship, and another of a pattern common to the Bronze Age.

In conclusion, a few words as to the origin of the Bronze Age ornaments and especially as to the spiral which forms the most remarkable feature of the Newgrange decoration.

The resemblance of Newgrange to the great domed tumulus at Mycenæ, generally known as the Treasury of Atreus, had often been noticed, and especially as to the spiral and lozenge ornaments on the pillars at the entrance, but the likeness was hardly thought to be more than a strange coincidence till the discoveries of Sir Arthur Evans, in Crete, gave the Mycenæan period a definite place in archæology.

The following is summarised from the British Museum Guide to the Bronze Age :—

Spiral ornament was a common decoration in Egypt on Scarabs of the 12th Dynasty, and appears to have reached Crete before the end of the 3rd Millenium B.C. It spread from Crete to the islands and the mainland ; and thence it followed the amber route along the Moldau and Elbe to the northern shores of Jutland, and found an early entry into Scandinavia. It is believed to have reached the British Islands quite early in the Bronze Age by this, or by a more southernly route by the West Mediterranean, Spain, and

France. The Mycenæan culture was chiefly extended about 1500 B.C., and corresponds with the Middle and later Bronze Age of Europe.

The late George Coffey says, in Gaul and Spain even the single spiral is hardly found, but it we take a line from the Ægean to the north the full impulse of the spiral system is maintained to the Baltic. Only two stones are known in France, viz., at Gavr'inis, and they are much ruder than those at Newgrange.

The spirals on a bronze celt of the Danish palstave type, are of unusual interest as showing the survival in the North, of the Egyptian spiral motive, and the loop in the V space of the spiral is a survival of the lotus as used in spiral ceiling patterns.

The distribution of the spiral in Great Britain and Ireland is very instructive—it is found in the Orkneys and north of Scotland—largely in south Scotland and north of England, and freely in the North of Ireland, rare in south of England and south of Ireland.

As to the date, if as seems probably the case, owing to the similarity of plan the Newgrange ornaments are derived from the Greek tholos tombs (domed vaults), it cannot well be placed earlier than 1000 B.C.

Books referred to :—

" Newgrange and the Bronze Age in Ireland " (Coffey).
" Ollamh Fodhla " (Conwell).
" Rude Stone Monuments of Ireland " (Wood Martin).
" Transactions of Royal Irish Academy."
" Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland."

MR. M. H. SCOTT'S NOTES ON "FAIR ROSAMOND."

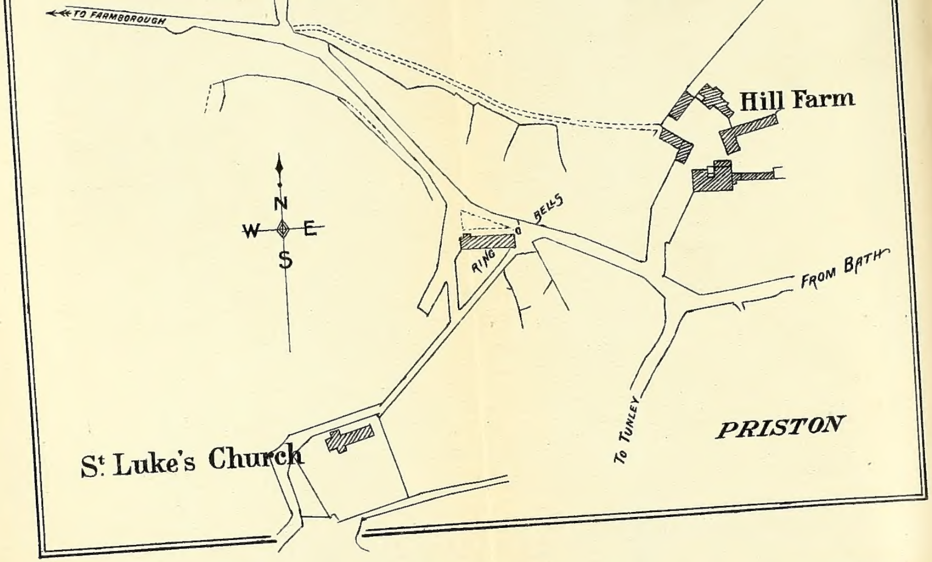
There was a good attendance at the Literary Institution on Wednesday, November 14th, when Mr. Scott read his interesting Paper, illustrated by many lantern slides, on " Fair Rosamond," of which a resumé will be found below.

Colonel Kirkwood, who presided, said he was sure all the members regretted that through ill-health the Rev. H. H. Winwood had felt obliged to retire from the Committee, of which he had been Chairman from the inception of this Branch Society. His knowledge of many subjects apart from his special one—Geology—had been of great assistance. The Committee having kindly elected him (Colonel Kirkwood)

as their Chairman, he would do his best to follow in Mr. Winwood's footsteps.

Mr. M. H. Scott gave a very interesting account of " Fair Rosamond " (Jane or Joan Clifford), his paper bearing evidence of careful and exhaustive research. The special interest to the society lay in the fact that Mr. Scott believed Rosamond Clifford to have been a Somerset lady, though he was aware that Skipton, in Yorkshire, was stated by some to have been her birthplace. Her people, however, had a residence at Cannington, and in the chancel of the church there was the vault of the Clifford family surrounded by an " iron pallisade curiously ornamented." The Cliffords were a family of some importance in the 11th and 12th centuries and Jane was the third daughter of Walter de Clifford and received her early education at Cannington Priory. Henry II. was sent by Matilda to her brother, Robert of Gloucester, to train, and he encouraged the boy to visit the chief families which had espoused Matilda's cause. Among them was the de Cliffords. Henry II. came back from a visit to Scotland to find his old playmate a beautiful maiden, made love to her and overcoming her scruples, persuaded her to consent to a secret marriage. Later, the young prince met Eleanor of Acquitaine in France, and married her within six weeks of her divorce from Louis, and obtained her rich provinces as a dowry. Mr. Scott told the story of the labyrinth at Woodstock built to hide Rosamond, the Queen's discovery of the entrance through the skein of silk. He discredited the tales of the ballad writers that Queen Eleanor compassed her death. All Eleanor wanted was her disappearance and Rosamond lived in honoured retirement in the nunnery of Godstow. Her lot was happier than that of those who turned her out. Henry and Eleanor were always at strife, Eleanor stirred up her sons against their father and signed herself " Eleanor, by the wrath of God, Queen of England." Mr. Scott also mentioned that the Empress Maud, mother of Henry II., presented the veil of St. Mary Magdalene to the Cluniac Priory at Monkton Farleigh (founded in 1125).

Mr. Scott was heartily thanked.



Lippiatt ...
Captain William ...
was found is 167 yards north ...
brought to light in the course of cutting a ...
field.

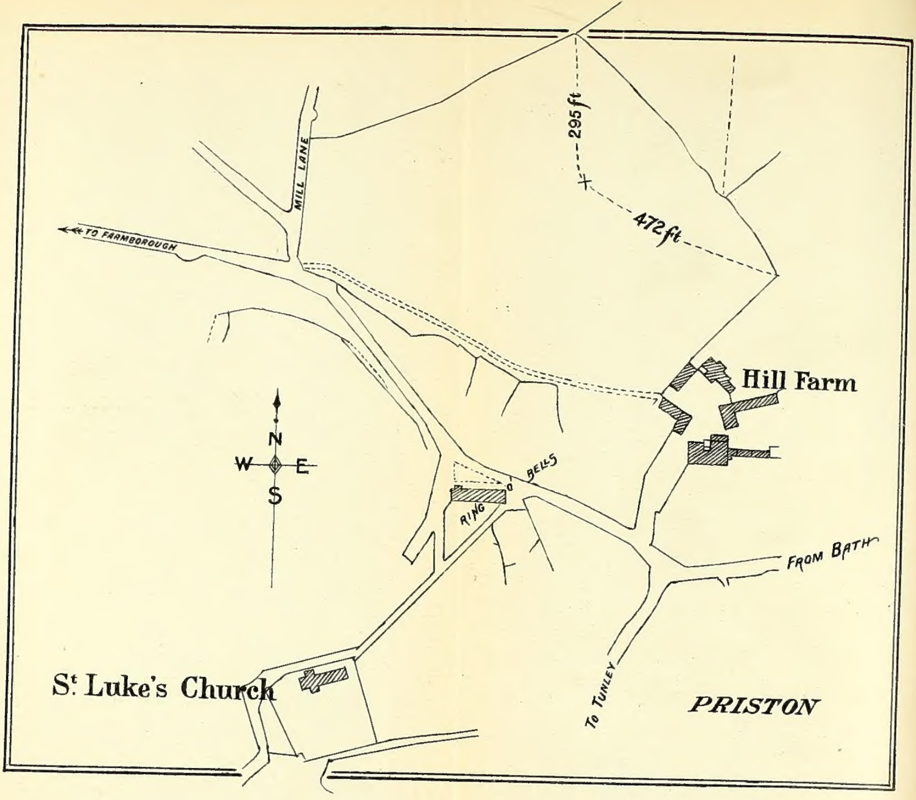
Top of coffin about 2 feet below surface. Rested on c...
subsoil. Direction of length was north to south. Head...
the north. From some cause or other the coffin had til...
sideways towards the east.

DESCRIPTION.—Coffin of roughly hewn stone, appare...
hewn with a pick. Rounded at head and very slightl...
shoulders, then tapering to square foot. Cover in two pi...
the longer (head) length hollowed to form lid fitting ...
head and sides of coffin. Lower (foot) length was not holl...
but roughly shaped.

DIMENSIONS.—Outside length of coffin, 6 feet. Inside l...
is 5 feet 7 inches. Inside width at shoulders $16\frac{1}{2}$ i...
Width at foot, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Outside depth (without ...
$10\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Inside depth $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Thickness of si...
inches. The longer piece of the cover measures 4 feet 2 i...
and the shorter piece 2 feet 4 inches. Thickness of...
is 4 inches. A slight depression for the heels is formed...
bottom of the coffin.

CONTENTS.—The coffin contained a complete sk...
Lippiatt affirms that when the cover was first remo...
skull was not in its proper place in relation to the res...
frame, but was lying face downward on the chest. ...
the skeleton occupied the full length of the coffin and ...
shoulders were well up into the head of the coffin.

The skull was small but thick in substance. Te...
perfect, not much worn and very white. I measure...
the fower leg bones at 13 inches.


295 ft
472 ft
MILL LANE
TO FARMBOROUGH
N
W
E
S
Hill Farm
BELLS
RING
FROM BATH
To TUNLEY
St. Luke's Church
PRISTON

DISCOVERY OF TWO STONE COFFINS.

PARTICULARS OF STONE COFFIN UNCOVERED NOVEMBER, 1917, IN A FIELD AT PRISTON, NEAR BATH.

Situation.—In a field known as "Great Cross Barn Close," lying between the road from Bath to Priston (via Odd Down), and a road known as Mill Lane.

Field is part of Hill Farm, in the occupation of Mr. Chas. Lippiatt. The owner and lord of the manor of Priston is Captain William Vaughan-Jenkins. Position in which coffin was found is 167 yards north of the main road. It was brought to light in the course of cutting a drain across the field.

Top of coffin about 2 feet below surface. Rested on clay subsoil. Direction of length was north to south. Head to the north. From some cause or other the coffin had tilted sideways towards the east.

Description.—Coffin of roughly hewn stone, apparently hewn with a pick. Rounded at head and very slightly at shoulders, then tapering to square foot. Cover in two pieces, the longer (head) length hollowed to form lid fitting over head and sides of coffin. Lower (foot) length was not hollowed but roughly shaped.

Dimensions.—Outside length of coffin, 6 feet. Inside length is 5 feet 7 inches. Inside width at shoulders 16½ inches. Width at foot, 9½ inches. Outside depth (without cover) 10½ inches. Inside depth 7½ inches. Thickness of sides 2½ inches. The longer piece of the cover measures 4 feet 2 inches, and the shorter piece 2 feet 4 inches. Thickness of cover is 4 inches. A slight depression for the heels is formed in the bottom of the coffin.

Contents.—The coffin contained a complete skeleton. Lippiatt affirms that when the cover was first removed the skull was not in its proper place in relation to the rest of the frame, but was lying face downward on the chest. He says the skeleton occupied the full length of the coffin and that the shoulders were well up into the head of the coffin.

The skull was small but thick in substance. Teeth were perfect, not much worn and very white. I measured one of the fower leg bones at 13 inches.

REMARKS.—The place had been overrun by people on Saturday and Sunday, some of whom had broken the coffin, smashed the skull and most of the bones, and carried away parts of the latter. Lippiatt has part of the lower jaw with four teeth.

Dr. Bullied has visited the site and I believe saw the skeleton before it had been disturbed. I am given to understand that in his opinion the skeleton is that of a female about 35 years of age.

ORNAMENTS.—Dr. Bulleid removed two bronze bracelets from the arms. These are of five strands of bronze wire twisted cable fashion. No trace of clasps. The inside dimensions are $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches by 2 inches. Diameter of cable, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. These bracelets are in the care of Mr. Lippiatt awaiting the disposal by the Lord of the Manor.

I am having the humus inside the coffin washed and the earth surrounding it sifted to ascertain if anything has been overlooked.

I enclose a tracing from the Ordnance Map, showing the exact position in which the coffin was found.

The armlets have been photographed by my son, K. W. Calvert, who has handed them over for reproduction.

CHAS. J. CALVERT.

6, TERRACE WALK, BATH ;
December 4th, 1917.

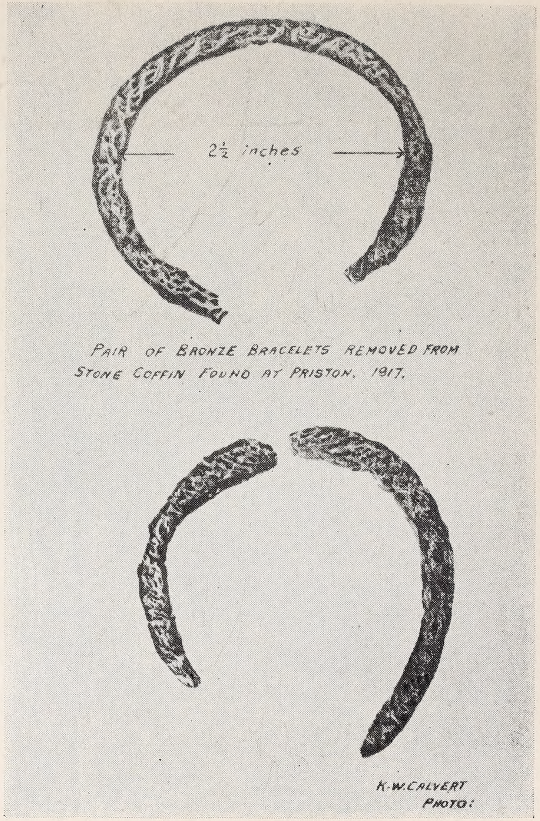
REPORT ON THE DISCOVERY OF A ROMAN COFFIN AND REMAINS, MIDFORD, 1917.

On December 5th I received a letter from Supt. Jennings, of the County Police Office, Weston, Bath, informing me that Mr. Fletcher, of Midford Hill Farm, had that day unearthed in one of his fields, a stone coffin containing a skull, and two leg bones of an adult person. On December 9th I went over to Midford and called on Mr. Fletcher, who accompanied me to where the coffin lay in situ. By the compass its position lay N.E. and S.W., the head to the N.E. The situation of the coffin was almost in the centre of a ploughed field on the brow of a hill, overlooking the valleys of Midford and Wellow, and east of the main road leading to Hinton Charterhouse.

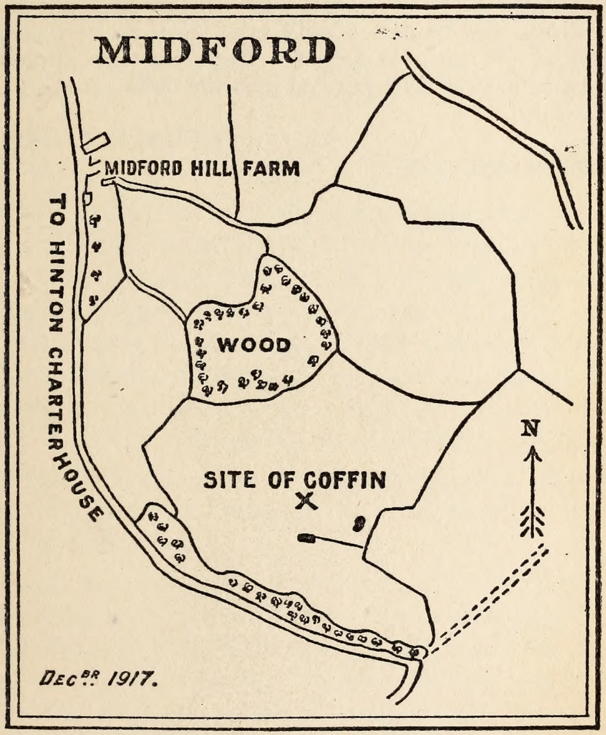
When ploughing the ground the blade struck the cover stone and the ploughman was sent for a pickaxe to remove the obstruction, and in doing to unfortunately broke it into

[Photo, Mr. Gerald Grey.

STONE COFFIN, MIDFORD.



about a dozen pieces, owing to the thinness of the oolite slab, which measured only 1½ inches in thickness. The coffin, round-headed and of oolite stone, was barely three inches in depth from the surface, and measured inside 5ft. 3ins. long, 1ft. 5ins. wide at head, tapering to 6 ins. at foot, 17 ins. deep at head, and 14ins. at foot. The depth outside could not be ascertained as the earth had not been removed round the coffin. The sides were 3 inches thick, at the head 4 inches, at foot 1½ inches. The inside had been beautifully worked with an adze, and very smooth, in fact, the best example I



have ever seen. The cover was so broken up that it was impossible to take measurements ; judging by the fragments the inside had been worked smooth.

The remains of the skeleton were much decayed, only the top of the skull, the lower jaw with a few teeth (having a reddish discoloration), a few ribs, one arm bone, femur bones and shin bones were discovered ; the follow-

ing were missing : greater part of skull, upper jaw, vertebræ, pelvis, right arm bone, finger and toe bones. As there was a considerable amount of wet earth in the coffin, possibly some of the above were mixed up with it, or they may have been carried away as trophies by some of the many people who visited the site. No metal—either as adornments or otherwise—were brought to light.

The photo I took of the coffin (here reproduced) does not show the skeleton clearly owing to the light not being favourable and also to the depth of the coffin.

The lower jaw was fairly massive and the teeth large and in good state of preservation. By the general appearance of the bones and teeth I should take them to be those of a male about 5ft. 4ins. in height. There is every appearance of the body having been jamned into the coffin at the time of burial.

GERALD J. GREY.

December 9th, 1917.

BATH & DISTRICT BRANCH

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

REPORT, 1918.

THE Committee have pleasure in stating that the position of the Branch both as to Membership and Finance is satisfactory. Commencing the year with a full list of Members, there were ten resignations early in the season, several of whom have left the District, and one death. Later on two members passed away, 13 have been elected bringing the total to 170, exclusive of one Member who is still abroad on active service. Five candidates are waiting admission.

The account of the Annual Meeting on March 21st, Captain Charles T. Foxcroft (Vice-President) in the Chair, will follow this Report.

Four local Rambles have been carried out this year. The Committee are greatly indebted to Mr. Mowbray A. Green, F.R.I.B.A., for kindly acting as guide at two of the Rambles. Thanks are due to the Misses Dixon and Dr. and Mrs. Begg for permission to view the interior of their houses, to the Rev. C. W. Shickle for receiving Members at S. John's Hospital, to the Rev. W. H. Samler at Southstoke and the Rev. F. A. Bromley at Weston. These Rambles are fully reported as is also the paper read at the Literary Institution, by the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn on the History of Claverton.

The portrait of William Pitt, by W. Hoare, is from a copyright photograph which we have been priviledged to reproduce

on payment of a fee. Other illustrations are from photographs, etc., kindly supplied by the Rev. C. W. Shickle, Rev. Ethelbert Horne, Mr. Gerald Grey, and Mr. T. S. Bush.

This year's proceedings complete the third volume. A list of contents 1914—1918 is published herewith. Any Member not having all the numbers covering five years and desirous of making up the volume will please communicate with the Hon. Secretary. There are two sets for sale 1904—1918 as well as separate numbers.

It will be noticed in the accounts that two further amounts have been invested in War Funds. The accounts have been kindly audited by Mr. James Anderson.

The Committee have to thank Mr. Thos. S. Bush for not only carrying out the duties of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, but also for arranging the Rambles, Mr. Gerald Grey, Hon. Excursion Secretary, having been fully engaged in War work.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1918.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Literary Institution on Thursday, March 21st, 1918, at 3 o'clock. Present:—Captain C. T. Foxcroft (V.P.) in the Chair, Colonel Kirkwood, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, Mr. M. H. Scott, Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn, Dr. O'Sullivan, Mr. R. C. Bush, Colonel Nash, Brig.-General Molesworth, Mrs. Tatham Hughes, Mr. E. Cay Adams, Miss Rodman, Mr. Brendon Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tanner, Miss E. E. Salmon, Miss L. M. Salmon, Mr. Ernest Pryce, Mr. Alfred J. Taylor, Miss Newham, Miss Gore, Miss Knight and Mr. Thos. S. Bush, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The Secretary announced that he had received letters regretting they were unable to attend from Lord Hylton, President; Earl Waldegrave, Vice-President; General Bradshaw, Colonel Clayton, Colonel Leigh, Rev. Ethelbert Horne, Mr. Gerald Grey and Mr. Norman, who is laid up with bronchitis.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts (both taken as read), said their position was satisfactory, the number of Members kept up, their Financial position was much the same as the previous year, and they had invested £23 5s. od. in War Saving Certificates which at the end of five years will be of the value of £30. He said they could not have excursions, but the walks round the City had been a great success in the interest they had aroused and the numbers they had attracted. It was particularly interesting to feel that a good many places just under their noses of which they knew very little a year ago they had now learnt to prize.

Mr. E. Cay Adams seconded the adoption. This was carried.

The following resolutions were also carried. Mr. M. H. Scott proposed, and the Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn seconded, the

re-election of Lord Hylton as President. Colonel Kirkwood proposed, and Colonel Nash seconded, the re-election of Earl Waldegrave, Lord Strachie and Captain C. T. Foxcroft as Vice-Presidents.

Mr. R. C. Bush proposed and Mr. Ernest Pryce seconded that the following form the Committee :—Colonel Kirkwood, Major General Bradshaw, Colonel Clayton, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, Colonel Leigh, Mr. George Norman, Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn and Mr. M. H. Scott.

Mr. Kemeys-Tynte proposed, and Mr. J. H. Tanner seconded, the re-election of Mr. Thos. S. Bush as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Bush, in returning thanks said that was the 15th time they had honoured him. He said that arrangements were being made to carry out a programme on similar lines to that of last year. At the end of April the Rev. C. W. Shickle has kindly promised to meet them at S. John's Hospital and give an account of that Institution, founded in 1174, and in June Mr. Mowbray Green will again shew them some interesting houses.

As to other arrangements nothing has been definitely settled. He also stated that in consequence of Mr. Isgar—who had audited the accounts for several years—being from home owing to illness Mr. Anderson had kindly undertaken that duty.

General Molesworth proposed, and Mr. A. J. Taylor seconded, the re-election of Mr. Gerald Grey as Excursion Secretary.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Captain Foxcroft for presiding, proposed by Colonel Kirkwood, seconded by Dr. O'Sullivan.

LOCAL RAMBLES.

VISIT TO ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL.

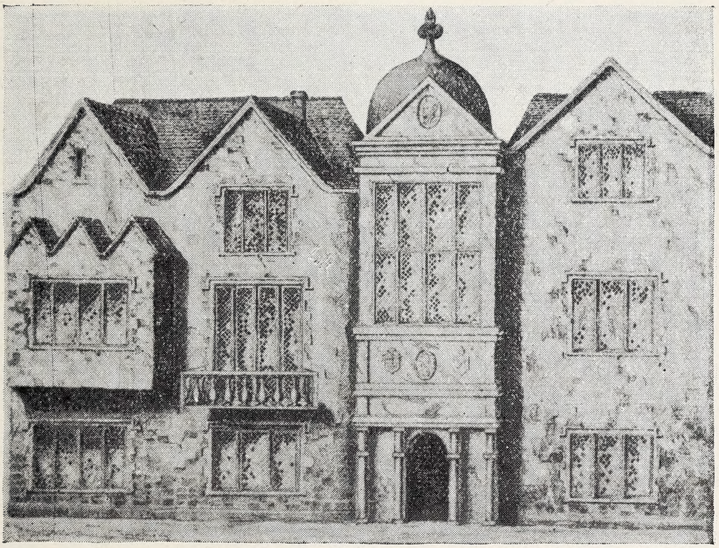
The Bath and District Branch of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society paid a visit to the ancient St. John's Hospital, Hetling Court, on Wdnesday, April 24th. There was a large muster of members, including the Revs. D. Lee Pitcairn, W. Elliot Inchbald, G. Howard Bigg, R. M. P. Butler, and R. M. Perkes, Colonel Arnoll Davis, Col. Clayton, Lieut.-Colonel H. P. P. Leigh, Mrs. Clayton, Mr. M. H. Scott, Mrs. Tatham Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Pryce, Mr. and Mrs. Brendon, Mr. E. S. Dodgson, Dr. A. O'Sullivan, Mrs. King Martyn, Mr. E. Segar, Mr. R. C. Bush, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Bush, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tanner, Mrs. and Miss Carr, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Gspandl. Colonel Kirkwood and Capt. Foxcroft wrote regretting they could not attend.

The first Ramble of the year was to St. John's Hospital, Hetling Court, on Wednesday afternoon, April 24th. The members were received by the Master (the Rev. C. W. Shickle), who gave them a very interesting account of the history of the institution, which was founded in 1174, and described the chartulary and other documents belonging to the charity.

The visitors gathered in the courtyard and the old buildings were seen under the best conditions, for there was a bright sun which lighted up the precincts. This was fortunate, because many of them had never been to Hetling Court before, and were greatly impressed with what they saw. The Master first took the party to the chapel where he remarked he was addressing the second voluntary congregation he had had that day. Although it was optional the pensioners before receiving their weekly pay attended service, and that morning they filled the chapel which he explained stood on the site of the original Norman structure erected when the hospital was founded, about 1174 by Reginald Fitz. Jocelyn, Bishop of Bath and Wells, who had to make his peace with the Pope by clearing himself of any complicity in the murder of Thomas a Becket. Of the original chapel very little remains. There are preserved in a niche in the wall of the passage to the vestry several pieces of masonry and stonework, which are unquestionably Norman, and formed part of the original Norman chapel. There are pieces of the big span and of some of the

window arches. The Norman chapel was restored in Queen Elizabeth's time, and it was rebuilt or rather restored by Killigrew (1716). He was to have rebuilt it, but it was clear he retained the same ceiling. In this connection much interest was evinced in the pieces of blackened timber on the walls of the vestry, which are pieces of the old wooden rood loft of the chapel sold to the builder for 4s. (according to the Chamberlain's accounts, No. 11 A.D. 1581, 13th June, 23rd Eliz.) and used by him in the ceiling which was then being renewed. These pieces were taken out in the presence of Mr. Shickle in 1900, when the roof was found to be suffering from dry rot. This wood had been used by the builder as struts for the main beams of the ceiling. Killigrew was supposed to have rebuilt the chapel, but it was evident he recased it, and put in a series of sash windows (of the domestic and entirely unsuitable type), as was seen from a picture also shown by Mr. Shickle. The windows were put right in Mr. Luckman's time. The only monument in the church is to the Rev. James Peake, master of the Grammar School and Rector of Walcot, and afterwards Master of the Hospital. Attention was also drawn to the very beautiful mosaic reredos, which is a memorial to the Rev. Rich. Palairet, an uncle of the Somerset cricketers and to the altar cloth worked by Mrs. Barnwell, the silks used being carefully chosen to match the colours in the reredos. In 1860 the present stained glass windows were put in to the memory of Miss Frampton, Mr. Ellis, of Cleveland Walk, the children of the Rev. W. Grant Luckman, Col. Francis Falkner, the Rev. James Skinner, Preb. Ford (Father in-law of Tom Hughes) and Preb. Buchanan Pearson.

No. 4 Chapel Court, was next visited, which has of recent years been re-const'ucted internally to provide a magnificent Board room. The walls are hung with many most interesting photographs and pictures, to which Mr. Shickle drew attention in turn. One of the photographs on the walls of the Board room showed the episcopal founder of the hospital supporting Richard I. at his Coronation. Another was of the inventory of the ornaments in St. John's Hospital, 1546. The photograph was taken of the original inventory of the chantries at the Records Office, which only disclosed the possession of a mass book valued at 8d., two pairs of vestments valued at 8s., and two bells, 6s. 8d., a total of 15s. 4d. Consequently the Commissioner " delivered to the said incumbent and have strictly commanded him safely to keep the same." Equally interesting is the brief issued by Queen Elizabeth for the restoration of the Abbey and St. John's Hospital, 1573 A.D.



SKETCH OF ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL
ENLARGED FROM GENDOT'S MAP BY MR. R. W. M. WRIGHT.

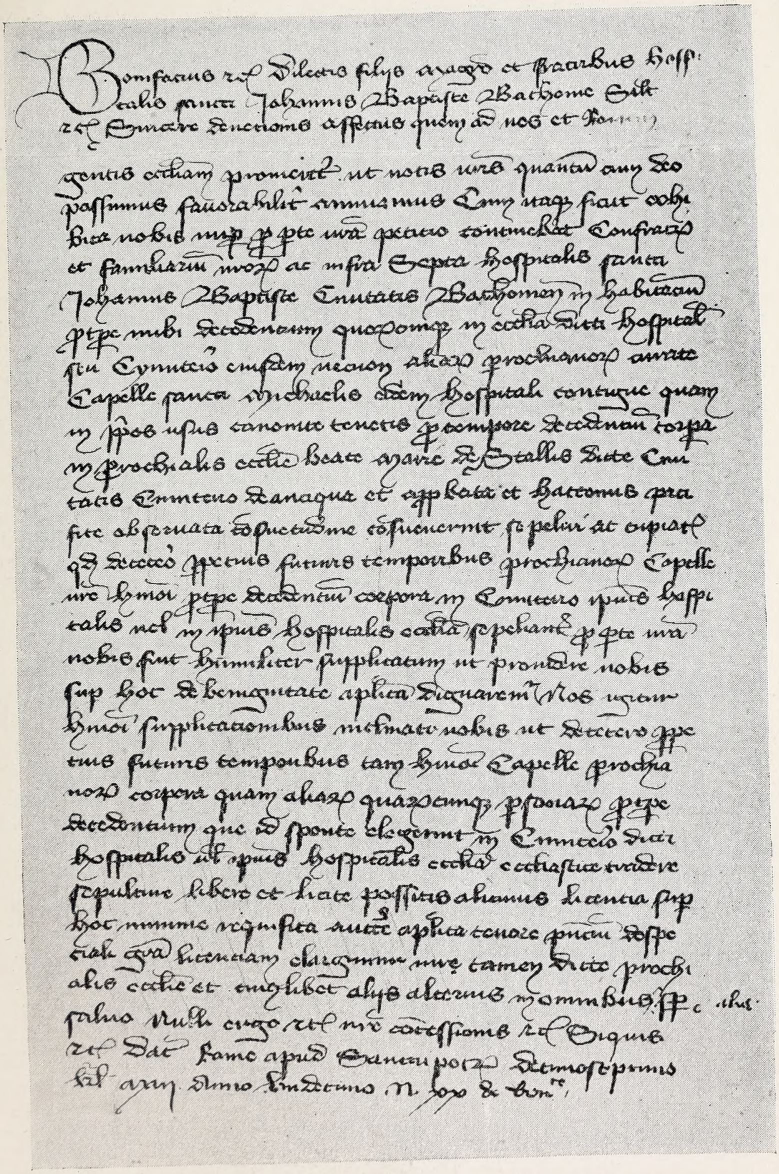
This was in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries, and, being a Fellow of the Society, Mr. Shickle was able to have it photographed so that a facsimile hangs in the Board room. The wording is quaint : " They do pray to have a convenient place to hear sermons and for divine service which cannot conveniently be in any other church within our said city for the smallness of the rooms and the buildings of the same." Shortly before this brief the parishes of St. Mary's in Bridge street, St. James', St. Mary's at Stalls (which stood at the corner of Stall street) were joined together. It was significant of the attitude of the Corporation at the time, Mr. Shickle pointed out, that they did not include in this fusion St. John's Hospital and St. Michael's in the Walls, which were already in their hands. In 1399 Mr. Shickle's predecessor, who had been burying people in the churchyard of the hospital, went to the Pope. There was a very beautiful view from the spot over the south wall, right to Englishcombe and Newton, and right away to Newbridge Hill the river could be seen winding. Hence the churchyard was a very popular place. He had been gathering the obits and fees and his neighbours became very jealous of him. When they complained he was too big a man to appeal to the Bishop, and he went straight to the Pope and obtained the required permission to continue. When he was in Rome Mr. Shickle saw the Pope's Librarian and the result is the photograph now hanging on the walls of " The reply of Pope Boniface (illustrated) (1,400) to the petition of the Master and brethren of St. John's Hospital, Bath," the photograph being of the entry in the Lateran MS. in the Vatican library taken at Rome in February, 1903.

Mr. Shickle also drew attention to a picture of Tobias Rustat, and an exceedingly clever etching by Mr. R. W. M. Wright, sub-librarian at the City Reference Library, of the hospital as shown on Gilmore's map of Bath. There is a copy of the Charter of Bishop Reginald, 1174, for a piece of ground (now Kingsmead and Avon street), which was found in the library of the Archbishop of Lambeth Palace, and photographed by Mr. Shickle, and among other charters are a confirmation of the land given by the son of Algar, probably the piece of land upon which the hospital now stands, and a confirmation by Savaricus, who succeeded Bishop Reginald.

The Master also described the Chartulary of the hospital, giving an account of the property. Only half of it remains, the first letters, but it is a noteworthy fact that there is no item of the property mentioned therein of which the Trustees have not knowledge. None of it was taken or stolen, and for reasons which are well-known it did not fall into the hands of

the Crown at the Restoration. The Corporation shamefully misused the revenues of the hospital during their tenure, but Mr. Shickle is emphatic that they did not take any of the property. There is in addition a list in the Corporation archives of a survey of the hospital lands (which would not have been compiled if they intended to take the land) which he has been able to check with the Chartulary, and in it is named land they now possess at Allam (near Evercreech), Tatwick, Berkley, Winsley, Cold Ashton, Bailbrook, and property in the city. The Corporation, too, said Mr. Shickle, had been very fair in their exchanges of land where street improvements were being effected. For some time he was puzzled as to what had become of a piece of land on the left side of Broad street which belonged to the hospital but eventually ascertained that when the Corporation took it probably for making the road in front of York House, and the Post Office, they gave in exchange 11, Brock street, which still belonged to St. John's. In speaking of the photographs of hospital property in Old Bond street, Mr. Shickle said the name came from the fact that the land was the garden of a Miss Bond. It was a good thing that the charity once declined to sell the ground, for that property now yielded a substantial revenue. He explained that the Bishop who founded St. John's also rebuilt the church of St. Michael within the walls on the site of the building where the school children are now fed. He believed that at one time the whole of the south side of Westgate street was ecclesiastical property. Where the trams now run in Westgate Buildings was the old city wall, and over that low structure a magnificent view could be obtained in those days stretching from Beechen Cliff to Twerton, Newton, and Kelston. So they could understand why Hetling House was built there and became a Royal lodging, and why the Duke of Chandos selected that spot for Chandos House. The in-patients of the hospital up to 1860 were provided with miserable accommodation, they had only one room on the round floor, and it was small wonder that their petition to a Bath M.P. was in the words " From dirt and darkness, good Duncan deliver us." As they had seen from Mr. Wright's etching the building had been raised to two storeys, but the upper portions were all let on leases.

He wished he could say something to the credit of the architect who planned the building when the old structure was gutted, but he could not—it was too awful. With regard to the hospital property that went astray he was rather afraid the masters were the persons at fault. In old days the master got a large sum out of the charity—that was the great



POPE BONIFACE'S IX LETTER A.D. 1404,
TO ST. JOHN BAPTIST HOSPITAL, BATH.

evil. His salary was a nominal amount, but owing to receipts in connection with reversions of leases he probably got from £1000 to £2000 a year. A chaplain was appointed in 1269, certain land at Timsbury and High Littleton providing his endowment, and although the master might have neglected the place there was evidence that the chaplain went on with his duties all through the Commonwealth. The present stipend was only £150 and he was suffering for the fault of his predecessors, but he was proud to be master, and for it was the only charity that had so ancient a corporation. He had been able to do something for St. John's but he would like other improvements effected including the transfer of Bellot's hospital to the " precincts " of St. John's. Before he concluded Mr. Schickle gave some figures which were a revelation as to the importance of the charity. There were six men and six women in-patients, and 130 out-patients and the large sum of £67 17s. 2d. a week was paid out. There were 530 candidates on the waiting list. In-patients now received 10/- per week, two rooms each, gas and medical attendance. Pensioners formerly had 10/- a week but when the old age pensions came in they made the amounts enough to bring in to the recipients 13/- per week. All leases of land were in the name of the master and co-brethren (the in-pensioners) and they all had a vote in the county accordingly as landed proprietors.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Master was proposed by Colonel Clayton, seconded by Mr. T. S. Bush, and carried by acclamation.

Mr. Shickle, in replying, asked his audience to use their influence in support of his desire to get the Narrow Quay opened up for vehicular traffic. This, he said, would greatly improve that neighbourhood, for a blind alley was always undesirable. He had obtained the consent of the G.W.R. directors, but the Corporation would not sanction the proposal because it would cost too much to put down the stone.

Translation of Pope Boniface's IX. (A.D. 1400) *Reply to a Petition of the Master and Brethren of S. John's Hospital, Bath.*

Boniface &c to our beloved sons the Master and Brethern of the Hospital of St. John Baptist in Bath, Health &c. The feeling of genuine devotion which you bear towards us and the Roman Church deserves that, as far as with God's help we can, we should attend favourably to your wishes. Since therefore, as was contained in a petition lately shown to us on your behalf, the bodies of your Brethren and Friends and

Inhabitants within the enclosure of the Hospital of St. John Baptist in the city of Bath, who may die from time to time therein whosover they may be have been wont to be buried in the Church of the said Hospital or in the cemetery thereof, and further the bodies of others being parishioners of the chapel-in-charge of St. Michael contiguous to the same Hospital, which chapel you rightly hold for your own uses, as they may from time to time die have been wont to be buried in the cemetery of the parochial church of the Blessed Mary of Stall in the said city by ancient and approved custom, hitherto peacefully followed, and forasmuch as you desire that henceforth in all time to come the bodies of parishioners of your chapel of this description as they from time to time die, may be buried in the cemetery of the Hospital itself or in the Church of the said Hospital, humble supplication on your behalf has been made to us that we would vouchsafe to provide for you on this point of our Apostolic love. We therefore moved by supplications of this sort by our Apostolical authority according to the tenor of these presents out of special grace grant license to you that henceforth in all times to come you may freely and lawfully be able, no one's license on this point being required, to commit to ecclesiastical sepulture in the cemetery of the said Hospital or in the Church of the same Hospital as well the bodies of any parishioners of the chapel of such sort , as also the bodies of other persons whatsoever from time to time dying who may have of their own accord chosen this, saving nevertheless the rights of the said parish church and of any other church in all things and always.

Let none therefore &c. Of our grant &c. If any one &c. Given at Rome at St. Peter's XVII. Kal. Maii. in our eleventh year.

N xx ut Beneventum.

VISIT TO SOUTHSTOKE.

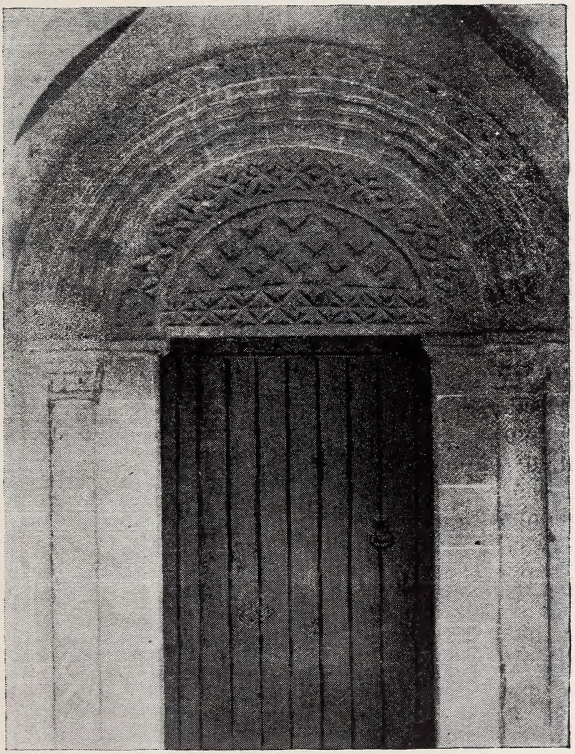
On Wednesday, May 29th, a considerable number of Members started by tram at 2.15 from the Guildhall, alighting at Glasshouse Farm (a glass manufactory was erected close by in the 18th century, hence the name), thence by the field path to Southstoke, a walk of about three quarters of a mile. En route Mr. Thos. S. Bush pointed out the Wansdyke (see notes later on). Here the party was increased by many members who had arrived independently, bringing the total to about 50. Assembling in the Church the Rev. W. S. H. Samler, vicar, stated that the ecclesiastical parish of Southstoke formerly covered a much larger area, and included the now separate parishes of Combe Down and Monkton Combe (which were formed in 1842 and 1845). The village was clustered immediately under the brow of a hill facing S.S.E., and about 500 feet above sea level. The view of the village from the opposite hill called Hodshill (or more correctly, he was told, Hogshill, presumably because of its shape), recalled some Italian village clinging to the hillside. A portion of this hill is still called Barrow Edge, and no doubt a Roman and possibly a British camp existed here. Mr. Hignett when carrying out garden operations unearthed two stone coffins with skeletons, many fragments of Roman pottery, and a few bits of British (see our Proceedings 1911 and 1914). On the hill opposite, evidently another encampment existed as the remains of earthworks are plainly disclosed. At the conquest the Manor existed in two separate Lordships as it had done in the reign of Edward the Confessor. William gave one to the Bishop of Coutance the other to Earl Morton. An old lease preserved in the Harleian MS. has the following, "that the Vicar for the time being should have the free pasture, a horse, a cow, and a bullock, in Brode Close and Grave Close." These pastures still have their ancient names.

The tower of the Church was 15th century, and was in all probability erected in the reign of Henry VII. In the Wars of the Roses Somerset was decidedly Lancastrian, and in return for the aid afforded by the county Henry rebuilt many of the churches which were specially famed for the beauty of their towers. It was ~~surrounded~~ by a turret and pinnacle

surmounted

and was beautifully proportioned, rising to a height of 50 feet. It contained three bells, one of which was dated 1633 and another 1622. The whole fabric was repaired and enlarged during the incumbency of the Rev. H. Calvary, when the south aisle was added. In 1885 a new organ and choir stalls were added, and in 1887 the east window was filled with stained glass by members of the Calvary family in memory of their parents and a small window near the font was given in memory of Charles Stuart Calvary, one of the foremost English parodists. Over the entrance to the north porch is inserted in the masonry a flat stone with a drip, whether an inscription or a carving in relief existed upon it is now unknown. There is a stone inserted in the vestry wall east, A.D. 1601, Imperit Rifi, Eliza Δ Δ Why there perhaps some of those present may be able explain it. The most interesting and beautiful feature of the church was a very fine Norman doorway, which had always been considered an orginal specimen of Norman work. The font was also Norman, and as Southstoke was in immediate possession of the Priory of Bath in Norman times, these remains would point to a Norman church existing before the present one. Beneath the font was a peculiar stone, not of the immediate neighbourhood, which he thought might be the altar stone though the five crosses were not to be found on the upper side at any rate.

On the west side of the church was an ancient tithe barn of the same date probably as the tower. The picturesqueness of the exterior had been considerably marred by the removal of the old stone tiling which had been replaced by slate. No doubt this was necessary, as it was considered that the weight of the stone tiling was too great for the ancient roof timbers to support. The wall on the west side was out of the upright, and buttresses had recently been placed to support it. On the south side were two most picturesque mullioned windows, and a large dove-cote formed by numerous holes pierced in the walls, under which were stone ledges. Referring to what was in all probability the old Manor house, which had for many years been used as the village inn, Mr. Samler said there seemed to have been an avenue of lime trees, as the two trees on either side of the entrance to the inn from the road were lime trees of the same age as those further west, of which quite an avenue still remained. Many of the old mullioned windows had been tiled in. Over the door was a date, 1671. He had been able to find no description of the building in any record. On the east of the barn are old buildings now used as cottages, in which traces of old windows are still visible.



Photo, Mr. Gerald J. Grey.

NORMAN DOORWAY, SOUTHSTOKE CHURCH.

Photos, Mr. Gerald J. Grey.

GARGOYLES, SOUTHSTOKE CHURCH.

The party then inspected the buildings, noting in the churchyard the stone to Lieut. John H. Samler, R.N., who went down on the Queen Mary in the battle of Jutland. In connection with the barn Rev. E. Horne mentioned that the largest barns in Somerset were Pilton 112ft. long, Doulton 98ft., and Glaston 94ft., in all three of which the width was the same, 34ft. The Southstoke barn he measured specially and found it was only 29ft. wide. These pigeon houses were generally 16th century.

The Vicar stated that he is a great lover of nature, and during his 30 or 40 years' incumbency of Southstoke has taken a special interest in the botany and ornithology of Bath and about a six mile radius. He has collected between 500 and 600 flowering plants—ferns are but sparingly represented—and observed more than 180 specimens of birds and between 30 and 40 species of lepidera. The natural features of hill and dale, brook and canal make the neighbourhood of Bath a good one for botany and ornithology. He states that this year the birds have almost all gone. The very hard winter seems to have killed them.

The geology of the district here and around Bath is almost wholly included in the Oolite group. The great Oolite formation being found on the uppermost stratum of the hills and Lias in the valleys. Fullers earth is found in the parish in considerable quantities and has been worked for many years, it consists of two colours blue and yellow.

Should time permit he would suggest a walk, passing through a gate above the old barn, then enter upon hilly ground called the Grove, where stand a few out of many venerable walnut trees that were in existance when he first came to the parish, ascend by a cart track some 60ft. to the table land from whence a grand view of the country is obtained. The Cam brook which forms the southern boundary of the parish takes its name from rising in the vicinity of Camerton. At Midford which is in our parish is another stream called (I believe) Somer from which Midsomer gets its name. Mr. T. S. Bush has handed me a list of the Vicars of this parish 1297—1691, copied from "Weavers" Somerset Incumbents, which will be printed and placed in the Church. He has also extracted some early notes given below referring to the Vicars and parish, mainly extracted from the Somerset Record Society's publications. The Rev. W. H. S. Samler was heartily thanked for his interesting address and guidance on the proposition of the Rector of Bath, Prebendary S. A. Boyd.

BATH ABBEY CHARTERS. L.I.M.S.

No. 578. Thomas de Winson, Prior, on resigning, provision for time by way of pension viz., the manors of Northstok and Southstok and Staunton and allowance from the common chamber of the monastery. 4th Ides of April 1301.

No. 600. Grant to Robert Brownyng and Joan his wife of certain pieces of land in the Manor of Southstoke viz., a croft called Curtmede, one acre called Wateleysacre, piece of meadow in Estmede rent twelvepence, and pieces of meadow called Takes and Overes de Westmede rent sixpence, 24 Edward I.

No. 603. Further grant to above Robert B. and Joan, one acre at Clereswelle and all the arable land at Westmede and pasture for cattle with the Priors cattle of Southstok. Sunday before the Feast of St. Bartholomew, 1305.

No. 677. Grant by Robert Prior to Sir Henry de Foxcote, vicar of Southstok, of a corrody. Dated the Feast of St. Augustine the Bishop 19 Edward II. (1326).

No. 678. Acknowledgement by the Prior that he has received of Sir Henry de Foxcote, V. of S. account of the receipts and expenses while he was administrator of the goods of the said church to the present date. Dated as No. 677.

No. 737. Memorandum, 7 Edward III., and 1st year of Thomas the Prior 1332 . . . . two acres of land in Bataylle Forlong by Wodbrok in the manor of Southstok which Roger de Vox formerly held and two acres of arable land in Harpperlong. To hold for the lives of Adam le Smyth of Midford, Isolda his wife and John their son.

No. 761. Grant by Thomas Prior, to Thomas Reynalding of Mere, tanner, of one bushel of corn every week during his life from the Manor of Southstoke next Bath and also one robe.

No. 808. Very long document. Southestokeham is mentioned.

BATH ABBEY CHARTERS. C.C.C.M.S.

No. 61. Anno incurnationis dominisce Me C^{c} XXXV. Ego Rodbertus, dei gratin ad presulatum Bathoneinsis

Photo, Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

TITHE BARN, SOUTHSTOKE.

ecclesœ electus et consceratus. . . . . . Præter hæe autem dei instinctu et houorwar virorum cousilio et intervealu, reddidi eis terram de Sudstoca. . . . . .

WELLS CHAPTER MS. VOL. I, P. 440.

Bull of Pope Adrian IV. addressed to Robert bishop of Bath and his successors, being a protection for his church and the possessions thereof, namely the abbey of S. Peter Bath conferred by charter upon the bishopric of Somerset by King William II. and King Henry I. his brother to transfer the see thither, with its adjuncts in the city, towns and customs whereof the abbey was seized at the accession of William II., Lincomba, Sudstoca, etc., etc.

Dated the Lateran by Roland cardinal priest and chancellor of Rome, IIII id May, 1156.

Adrian Nicholas Brakspear, the only Englishman that has occupied the Papal throne. Pope 1154—1159).

BATH ABBEY CHARTERS. LINCOLN'S INN.MS.

No. 79. Grant by Robert Prior (1198—1223) &c. to his clerk John de Tusseburi of the chapels of Siccestoke and Cumba. Saving Four Shillings a year to the Infirmary of Bath. Witnesses :—Elias, Dean of Bath, Master Giles de Wint, Master Nicholas de Evesham, Thomas de Palton, Henry the Porter, Roger Badmer and many others. (Probable date 1210).

BATH CITY CHARTERS, NO. 17. SOMT. A. & N.H.Sy. VOL. 22. PT. II. P. 9.

In 1260 is a grant by Peter Chamberlain of Sheftebure to Richard Donekar, vicar of Southstoke of a yearly rent of 12s. from a house opposite the church of St. Mary de Stalls.

BATH ABBEY CHARTERS. LINCOLN'S INN.MS.

No. 229. Grant by Walter, Prior &c. to his clerk, R. Donekam, of a lodging in the priory as one of their clerks, with meat and drink, so that the said R. may be ordained to the priesthood and serve the priory as a chaplain. Dated at Bath on the Kalends of May, 1263.

No. 310. . . . . . Richard Douthen, chaplain . . . . at Bath. 7 Kal., Jan. 1266.

No. 352. Grant by W. Prior &c to Richard Dunekan, his clerk, of board and lodging in his house of Bath. And that after he shall be ordained in the priesthood he shall serve the Prior as chaplain. Dated on the Kalends of May, A.D. 1263.

BP DROTHENSFORD'S REGISTER.

No. 119a. Hen. de Foxcote, Dr., admitted to Southstoke Vicarage. Woky, 5 Kal., April, 1319. Arch of Bath to induce.

BP RALF'S REGISTER.

No. 2251. II. Kal. April, 1349 at Wyvelescomb. The lord instituted Adam Lawr of Cleyve, priest, to the vicarage of Southstoke.

No. 2363. XIII. Kal., July, 1349. Adam Lawrence, chaplain, was instituted in the church of Hinton Bluet.

BP BOWET'S REGISTER.

No. 244. Sept. 23rd, 1406, the vicar general arranged the exchange between his William Plonte perpetual Vicar of Colerne and Henry Hert perpetual vicar of Southstoke. Said William was presented by the Prior and chapter of Bath.

No. 223. Oct. 9th, 1405. Exchange between his William Plonte rector of Northstoke and John Tigglet, vicar of Colerne.

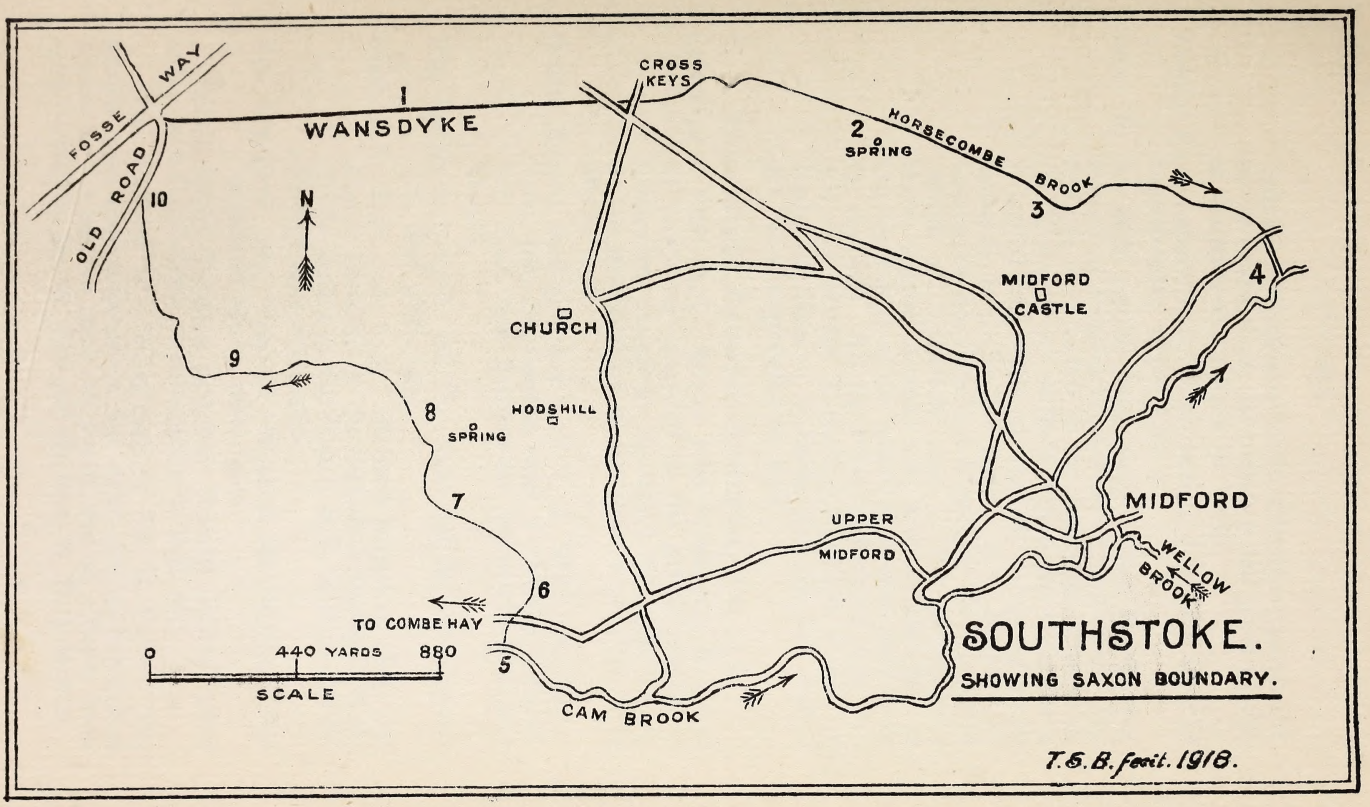
BP BULWITH'S REGISTER.

No. 556. A.D. 1415, Resignadio vicarie de Southstoke (long document) Johannes Netylton alias Knoyle, perpetnum, prout asserius vicarius ecclesie parochiales de Southestoke, &c. He was appointed to S.S. Peter & Paul, Bath, July 10th, 1415.

No. 557. July 10th, 1415. Wells. The Vicar general instituted Sir John Hert, priest as the perpetual vicar of the parish church of Southestoke, vacant as above at the presentation of the Prior and convent of the cathedral church of Bath.

In 1407 this John Hert was appointed to Canyngton by the prioress and convent of Canyngton and in 1408 exchanged with the vicar of Lyne.

No. 665. Dec. 5th, 1416. Wells. The Vicar general instituted Sir John Leye, priest in the perpetual


SOUTHSTOKE.
SHOWING SAXON BOUNDARY.
WANSDYKE
FOSSE WAY
OLD ROAD
CROSS KEYS
HORSECOMBE BROOK
SPRING
MIDFORD CASTLE
CHURCH
HODSHILL
SPRING
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vicarage of the parish church of Southestoke, vacant by the death of Sir John Hert at the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath.

Richard Pavy appointed to Southstoke in 1428 was vicar of Inglescombe, 1416—1428.

Somt. R. S. Will proved June, 1467. John Sparhawke, Rector of Coldaston, diocese of Worcester. My body to holy burial in the cathedral church of the Blessed Peter of Bath, before the altar which is called the altar of Majesty. Among many bequests are :—To the church of S. Michaels of Combe, 6s. 8d. (Monkton Combe). To the parish church of Southstoke and to the parishioners there, a good manual and surplice and 40s. to the reparation of the missal that they may pray for my soul. To the Prior of Bath to bury me, 20s. To Master Richard Lychefelde, doctor of Laws, Archdeacon of Bath, one gilt cup with a gilt cover, to pray for my soul.

WORCESTER. REGISTER BOUGCHIOR, VOL. 93.

Last Day of July, 1443. Master John Sperhawke, Bachelor of Law, was admitted to the parish church of Coldaston, vacant by the death of Sir John Law at the presentation of the Prior and Convent of Bath.

British Record Society Index to P. C. C. Wills, 18 Godyn, 1467, John Sparhawke, clerk, Coldaston, Gloucester, Bath and Southstoke, Somerset, Wharham Dorset.

Tho. Ecklys exchanged with Tho. Warrand, Rector of Laverton, May 26th, 1493.

Somt. R.S., Sept. 3rd, 1545. Richard Erington, clerk and Canon Resident of the cathedral church of Wells To be buried in the church of S. Andrew, Wells. Proved May 20th, 1546.

Ric. Eryngton was vicar of Wookey, his successor was appointed March 30th, 1546.

Bath Abbey Charters (Somerset Record Society) gives in No. 20 C.C.C.C. the Saxon boundary in A.D. 961.

The following is a translation by Mr. H. Parry. The figures have been entered on the notes and corresponding figures on the plan to shew the points named. These have been verified by Mr. W. Pitt and the Rev. W. H. S. Samler.

And this small estate is comprised within these limits. Boundaries—First from the west the northern boundary is Wansdyke (1) thence to the Horsecumbe spring (2), and down the brook (3) to the Cambrook (4) and along Cambrook up stream to the boundary brook (5) and along the brook up stream on the west side of the seven springs (6) then up on the down along the boundary brook (7) then north straight on for a while (8) then westward round a corner (9) to the old street (10) then east to Wansdyke.

The Wansdyke (Wodens Die in Saxon documents) forms the northern boundary of the parish of Southstoke and extends from the Cross Keys Inn (where two roads cross, one leading to Midford, the other to Southstoke) to near Burnt House Inn on the Fosse road, a length of about three quarters of a mile. A wall stands on a considerable length of it and a hedge on the western end. To the east of the Cross Keys there is apparently no sign of the dyke until Prior Park is reached, the land in between having been built on or cultivated, would account for its destruction. From Burnt House westerly there is a gap of about 700 yards, then a short length of the dyke, a further portion is to the west of Englishcombe Church. In our Branch Proceedings for 1904 will be found a short report with illustration of a cutting made under the supervision of some of our Members through this part of the earthwork, and in that of 1905 a report with illustration of similar exploration on Bathampton Down and also of several trenches that were dug on Claverton Down, where on the Ordnance Map is a line marked " line of Wansdyke."

When the Parent Society visited Englishcombe in 1914 Mr. Albany Major said that he had just spent three or four days in tracing the Wansdyke from Bathford to Maesknoll, which lies to the south of Bristol, he having previously traced it in Wiltshire and to the east of Savernake Forest and computes the whole length so far as it has been possible to trace at about 60 miles, as the crow flies, from end to end, it is presumed that it was continued to the Severn possibly at Portishead. (Vol. 60, " Somt. A. & N.H. Society," report and two illustrations of sections of the dyke).

No. 30 ROYAL CRESCENT AND 7 THE CIRCUS.

By Mr. Mowbray A. Green.

On Wednesday, July 3rd, Members assembled at 30, Royal Crescent where they were received by the Misses Dixon. Mr. Mowbray A. Green, F.R.I.B.A., whose knowledge of the architecture of the City is unique, kindly acted as guide and gave the following interesting notes about the Crescent and the Circus.

Mr. Mowbray Green said in point of dignity and bold conception, the design of the Circus must yield to that of the Crescent, the very situation of which lends a charm to its imposing effect. It appears to the spectator almost suddenly, with a broad sweep of lawn stretching in front of it from end to end. The scheme is simple ; an entirely plain basement storey supports a large Ionic order, the columns of which are 2ft, 6in. in diameter,and 22ft. 6in. high,rising through two storeys, and crowned with an entablature five feet in depth, the total height from pavement to parapet being just 47 feet, or 5 feet higher than the Circus. The parapet is an open balustrade, but there are no ornaments over the dies ; it needs none. The effect is obtained by the dominating order, and the bold sweeping circular lines over, unbroken to the roof. Detail is not looked for ; it would serve no purpose, but would destroy the dignified simplicity of the whole. At the same time it must be admitted that this effect is gained by a less legitimate use of the order than in the Circus. It should be noted that originally the roofs, as indeed throughout Bath, were covered with stone tiles, and a more artistic covering can hardly be conceived. The eye is thus carried up to the topmost part of the building, and sees it as one harmonious whole. The Crescent, which was the work of the younger Wood, was begun in 1767, and was finished about eight years after. The different stages in the building of it may be traced in the Russell collection of maps at the Literary Institution. The major axis of the Crescent, which is an ellipse on plan, is about 538 feet. Including the two ends 114 columns are used in the façade, the central house being distinguished by two sets of coupled columns. The masonry

of the external face is set square between the columns, so that the soffit of the entablature is wider next each capital than it is over the middle of the window, but it is scarcely noticeable, and the saving of labour in working the stone must have been immense. Above and below the columns the masonry follows the line of the ellipse. The same treatment is found in the Circus, though there it is less apparent. The interiors of these houses are treated with great variety as regards their staircases. In some houses, the staircase rises towards the front of the houses, and in others it is in the centre under a large sky-light, this being in one case supported on a small enriched cove, but in most instances it is situated at the back of the house. A panelled arch usually divides the outer hall from the staircase, the walls of which above the surbase moulding are divided into long upright panels by a cable moulding. The turned wood balusters of the earlier work have given place to light iron bars about an inch square, with sometimes alternate panels filled in with wrought iron conventional foliage. The walls of the principal rooms are also panelled in plaster, and the door heads enriched with carving. The severe classic cornices are here replaced by a freely-treated bracketed cornice similar to some in the Circus. The doors are frequently of deal, veneered with mahogany, but most of the old door furniture is gone.

The chief means of decoration is found in the ceilings. The enrichment is nearly always in low relief, though occasionally naturalesque subjects such as birds and flowers are introduced.

The panelling is sometimes set out geometrically in concentric circles, occupying the width of the room, with long panels at the two ends, and an enclosing band of ornament running round the four sides, and separated from the cornice, or perhaps divided into still smaller panels with a variety of forms. In this case the centre is an octagon with spandrels at the four corners, and an ellipse takes the place of the long rectangular compartment. A very fine modillion cornice runs round the room. A still freer treatment is that where the centre is occupied by a circle of ornament, and ornaments radiate from the four corners, while the spaces between the corners are filled with long panels of foliage.

The beauty of the fireplaces lies in the design, and the restraint in ornamental parts. The marbles chiefly used are white statuary, and some coloured marble such as Siena, shown here by the darker tint. Ionic columns are usually employed with the entablature breaking round them. The second example is also from the crescent, and is of Siena and

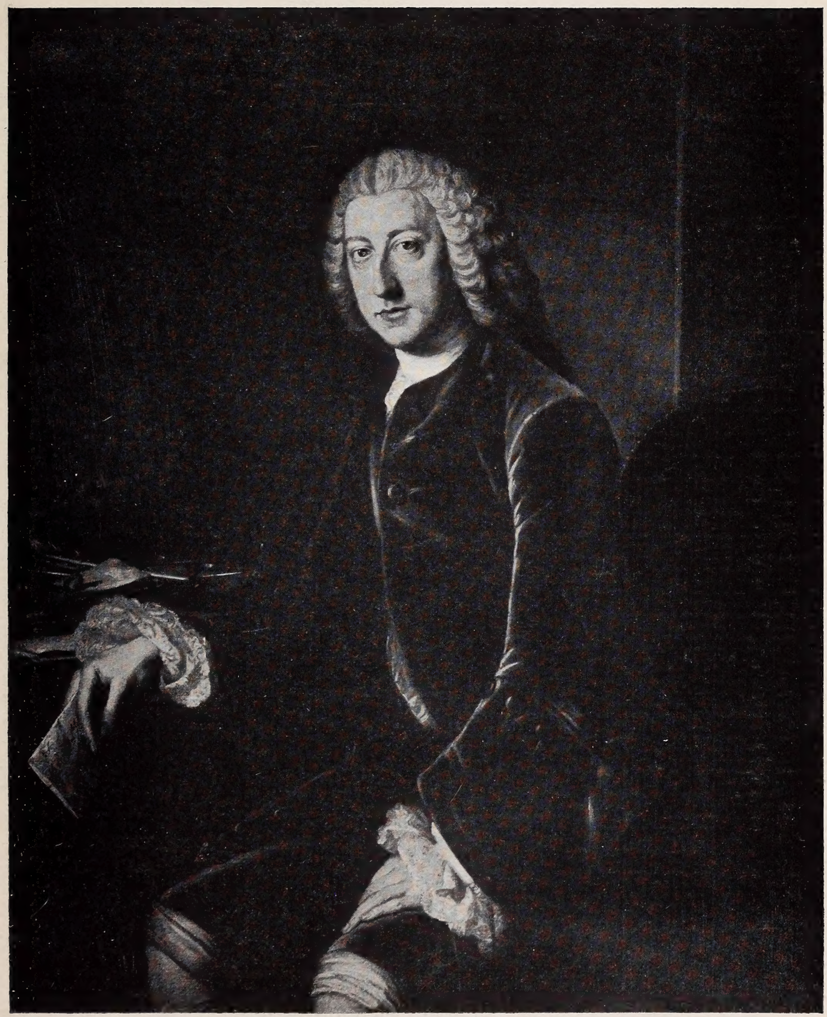

Photo-block, Emery Walker, Ld.

WILLIAM PITT, BY W. HOARE,
NATIONAL GALLERY.

white marble, with angular capitals and fluted sinkings in the frieze.

Mr. Kemeys-Tynte moved a vote of thanks to the Misses Dixon which was heartily accorded. The party then visited No. 7 The Circus where Dr. and Mrs. Begg awaited them.

7 The Circus.

No. 7, The Circus was the residence of the Rt. Hon. William Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham, to whom it was conveyed by John Wood, the elder, on Jan. 3rd, 1755 (the actual conveyance was produced by Dr. Begg). Before Pitt settled in Bath he had visited the city occasionally, being entertained by Ralph Allen both at his town house and at Prior Park. In 1735 he took his first seat in Parliament as member for Old Sarum, but from 1740 onwards the municipal body and the citizens of Bath had received him with special honours and finally in 1757 chose him, through Ralph Allen, to represent them in Parliament. At the General Election in 1761 he was re-elected. On Feb. 10th, 1763, the Peace of Paris was signed. This was described in an address to the King's Most Excellent Majesty by the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of Bath as "adequate and advantageous." Unfortunately this was exactly what William Pitt did not believe it to be, and on June 2nd, 1763, he wrote a letter to Ralph Allen asking him to convey his thoughts to the Mayor and Corporation and to confess that he perceived he was but ill-qualified to form pretensions to the future favour of gentlemen who had come to think so differently from him on matters of the highest importance to the national welfare. Ralph Allen in his reply two days later tried to soothe Mr. Pitt, but he was unable to alter his decision, and his final rupture with the Corporation now occurred. He sold his house at the close of the year, but retained his seat until 1766 when he was created Earl of Chatham. On May 11th 1778, he died, aged 69.

Both Gay street and the Circus, which was known at first as the King's Circus, were designed by the elder Wood, though the Circus and part of Gay street were carried out by his son. In 1753 the father entered into an indenture with the Rt. Hon. William Pitt for the building of 7, The Circus. The *Bath Journal* of Feb. 18th, 1754, quoting from the *Whitehall Evening Post*, contains an "Extract of a letter from Bath," saying that on that day John Wood laid the first stone of the King's Circus, and speaking in gratitude of the buildings already executed from his designs. There was to be a "superb equestrian statue" of King George II. in the centre. On May 23rd, 1754, the elder Wood died.

The method with the Woods of carrying out their building schemes was to engage builders to execute a uniform exterior with liberty to alter the interior to suit the fancies of tenants. The builder, having then arranged with some wealthy tenant to take a lease of the house for a term of years, took his agreement to a banker and easily obtained the required money for the work. The Circus is divided into three blocks, all of the same size but each with a different number of houses. The first block to be built was that extending from the top of Gay street to Brock street, i.e., the block in which we now are, and containing really eleven houses, though the corner one is reckoned in Brock street. The other blocks contain respectively 10 and 12 houses. The diameter from house to house is 318 feet, which is almost exactly the length of Queen square from north to south (316 feet). The height of the houses is about 42 feet. The buildings took 15 years to complete. An early engraving from a fan shows a reservoir of water in the centre, but by 1773 this was arched over. It was fed by two or three good springs and was known as The Circus W.W., supplying the whole neighbourhood till some years ago. A writer of about 1820 says that there was a shrubbery in the middle of the enclosure and a gravel walk surrounding the reservoir. The five plane trees were probably planted at the beginning of the 19th century, and here I must enter a protest against the way in which these trees have been allowed to grow to their present dimensions without any attempt to prune or keep them in order. Twenty five years ago it was quite possible to see the houses on the opposite side of the Circus from the top floor windows, but their present growth has developed so enormously that the scale of the buildings is immensely dwarfed, and they are now entirely out of keeping with this great architectural scheme. They should be cut down to at least half their height.

One of the best representations of the Circus is in an aquatint by John Robert Cozens, published Nov. 30th, 1773. The windows in this are all shown with small panes, of which very few now remain, and there is a lamp on either side of each entrance. Unlike the Crescent, the parapet shows no balusters, and at first was plain, as in Malton's view of 1784, but at some time oval openings have been pierced in it in front of each dormer window. Some of these openings have now been replaced by balusters. I regret to see that in one or two cases of late years the acorns have been removed.

The interesting diversity of planning, peculiar to those days, is to be found chiefly in the first block of houses. It is partly due to the varied requirements of the different tenants.

The dining room at the back of No. 10 is panelled in stone, and there is a very fine staircase here with a circular end. Both 9 and 10 have some original work in the fireplaces. The plan of No. 9 is well contrived. An interesting point in the original leases of the Circus is that all the windows and the front doors are to be painted a " quite white " colour.

It may not be amiss here to make some little comparison between the Circus and the Crescent. Given the idea of a circular line of buildings, the design is largely inodified by the space at disposal, and it is very evident that in elaborating the Circus with its three distinct orders—Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian—and its wonderful array of coupled columns, 324 pairs in all, with bands of ornament at the upper and lower storeys, and the acorns crowning each coupled order, Wood intended to impress the spectator from a near point of view, knowing well that in such a form as a circle a distant view would be impossible. For this reason there is much interest in a close examination of the work and the truth of the design is enhanced by the orders being confined to their respective storeys. A particular feature in the planning of the Circus has been remarked. It is that in having only three openings into it instead of four, it is not cut up into insignificant quarters, and the effect upon entering it at any point is that of a continuous line of buildings facing the spectator. And it does not appear that this particular planning is due to the nature of the ground, because Wood seems to have had the whole of the surroundings under his control, and could have laid it out as he planned.

Before leaving Dr. and Mrs. Begg were, on the proposal of the Rev. C. W. Shickle, thanked for allowing their house to be visited.

Mr. M. H. Scott, on behalf of the Members, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Mowbray A. Green for acting as cicerone and for his interesting address.

Visit of the Bath Branch of the Som. Archæological Society to 7, The Circus, Bath, on July 3rd, 1918.

Mr. Mowbray Green having finished his remarks, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte informed the company that he had in his possession two very interesting old letters from a Lady in Bath to her friend Lady Tynte * relating to the house they were then visiting, and dated December 1763, now one hundred

* Wife of Sir Charles Kemeys-Tynte, 5th Bart., of Halswell, near Bridgwater.

and fifty years ago. These letters are signed merely "P.B.," which Mr. Kemeys-Tynte took to be P. . . . . Bury; but whether the writer was the wife or the daughter of Mr. Bury who had just secured the lease of Mr. Pitt's house, No. 7 The Circus, he was unable to say.

Mr. Kemeys-Tynte then read extracts from the Letters relating to Mr. Pitt's house, which created much interest; and as bearing on the class, mode, and habit of visitors to Bath at that period, A.D. 1763, we by his permission publish them in full.

LETTER I.

"December 15th, 1763.

"My Dear Lady Tynte,

"I thank you most sincerely for your last kind letter, and assure you that if I do not trouble you oftener wth my Letters, it is entirely in consideration to you, who I know have continual employment, both at Home and Abroad.

"I am very glad to hear Sr Charles is well, but must tell you that your Letter brought us all in general, and myself in particular, a great Disappointment. We had flatter'd ourselves that Sr Charles would drink the Waters, tho' well, by way of Precaution. I know my sentiments are selfish, and therefore will endeavour to be pleas'd that you are in a more agreeable situation than Bath could possibly afford you.

"I am glad that Mr. Mildmay is well, and that he was sensible of my being sincerely glad to see him, but I am a little disappointed to hear he is in London, for when he left us he told us he should return to Bath before he went out of the Country. I desire my best comp[ts] to him, as also to little Tit. We saw a good deal of the Schutz,* and I believe both Father and Son are very honest good men. I am surpris'd at what you tell me of Mrs. Schutz. Such actions are generally the consequence of great Passions, but I think *Passion* could have no place in a marriage wth Jack Schutz. But indeed I am no judge for other People. Mrs. Aufrere is gone, she is really a most agreeable woman, and her Husband (I believe) a very worthy man She was wth me almost every Day and amused me very much by the Relation of Things that have pass'd in our absence.

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* The Schutz family were related to Lady Howe, who was the eldest daughter of the Hanoverian Baron Kilmansegge, and widow of Emanuel Scrope, second Viscount Howe, who died in 1735. Lady Howe died in 1782.

There is a tablet to one of the ladies of the Schutz family in Bath Abbey, who died December 4th, 1765.

"Lord and Lady Howe are here, she keeps her bed wth a cold and Fever (perhaps a miscarriage) therefore I have not seen her. He has been wth us, and I find him so much the same in Person and Manner that I should imagine Time had stood still wth him, whilst it gallop'd a Pace wth us. He finds my sister much better than he had imagin'd. He did not say whether I was alter'd or not, only in the conversation he told me that he found I was still very sawcy. He desir'd that his Wife and me might meet as Relations and old acquaintance, for as such she desir'd to be look'd upon; but he say'd nothing that could give me an opportunity to judge whether he is very happy or not.

"Nothing that I hear of Ld. Eglinton can surprise me. He has so many Arts to make himself appear what he is not, that it is incredible. I imagine, therefore that either the young Lady deceiv'd her Mother wth a Story of his proposing, in order to be suffer'd to be wth him, or that he really did propose in such a manner that he knew they could not accept him, and that at the same Time he should get the Credit of having made an offer. As to Lady Eglinton, she has so small a Jointure that to my Knowledge she can hardly live upon it, therefore it was ridiculous to mention her Life or Death.

"My Dear sister continues well. We have lost the House in the Square [Queen Square] by intrigue and cunning. But I am endeavouring to get another House in the Circus, wch tho' not so convenient as that in the Square, is more pleasantly situated. If I succeed I will write you all about it.

"My Dear Lady Tynte you are vastly good to think about venison, but I assure you it would have been quite needless since your Absence, for Mr. and Mrs. St. John have supplied us most plentifully.

* * * * * *

Letter II.

"December 29th, 1763.

"My Dear Lady Tynte,

"Another Letter troubles you, first to thank you for another Side of Venison, the finest that can be seen. The last Haunch was partaken of by Sr Thomas Worseley and some other gentlemen, who say'd it was the finest Doe Venison they ever saw. You are vastly good, and we are truly sensible that you are so.

" The Second Purpose of this Letter is to acquaint you that we have taken Mr. Pitt's house in the Circus,* for five years certain, to give £120 a year and pay the Taxes wch will amount to ten more. An Extravagant Price for an unfurnish'd House at Bath! But however a House was quite necessary, and my Sister is much better pleas'd wth this house than she was wth that in the Square, on account of the Prospect, wch is still more delightful than in the House we are now in.

" The Eating Room, and the Room over it are thirty feet by nineteen, wth a large Bow Window in each Room. There are three Rooms on the two first Floors, and four very good Bedchambers on the third Floor. In short the House is very much pleasanter than that in the Square, and seems to please all the Family (a Consideration) better. We are to go into [it] by the first of March, and we have agreed wth Hill, of Marlborough, about furnishing it, but as there are a good many things to be done, I question whether we may not be kept at Bath the greatest Part of the Summer, in which Case we could not go to Kevenmably.† But this I speak only on my own Imagination, therefore desire you will not mention it from me. Mr. Bury is to make the third Room on the first Floor, next the Garden, his Library, which I fancy will amuse him to fit up. Sr Charles Hotham is here, one of the most Melancholy objects I ever saw. I fancy he is a very good kind of man, and always was very sensible. He sets wth us sometimes of an evening, not being able to join in the Diversions of the place. I have not yet seen Lady Howe, she being confin'd to her Bed.

" Adieu, my Dear, Dear Friend, a thousand Thanks, to you for all your Goodness. All this Family (particularly my Sister, who is well, and myself) join in Comp^ts of the Season to yourself and Dear Sir Charles, and I am

Your most affec^te.

P. B.

" Mrs. Egerton wrote me that you were at her private Party, and says she is charm'd wth you."

* * * * * * *

The Portrait of William Pitt by Wm. Hoare in the National Gallery was photographed by Messrs. Walker and Cockerill, and is copyright. Messrs. Emery Walker, Ltd.,

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* No. 7, Circus.

† Sir Charles K. Tynte's seat in Glamorganshire.

the present representatives of the Firm have given us permission to print the photograph charging a small fee for the licence, and have made the block for reproducing it.

In one of the Committee Rooms at the Guildhall, Bath, is a full length portrait of William Pitt as Earl of Chatham. This was painted by Wm. Hoare at the request of the Corporation. A photograph of this has been taken and published at the *Herald* Newspaper Office.

WESTON.

The fourth and last Ramble of the year was to Weston on October 7th. The Vicar, the Rev. F. A. Bromley, received the Members at the Church, All Saints, and gave an account of Church and Parish for much of which he was endebted to notes collected by Mr. Clement Bush, who for many years resided in the village. With the exception of the tower, which is said to be of the 15th century, the building is modern. The old church was pulled down in 1830 and a much larger one built on the site, consisting of nave, two aisles, chancel, south porch and crypt, which is entered by a flight of steps on the south side; a gallery was built at the west end of the nave. In the tower are six bells that were re-cast in 1739 from six former bells, by Thomas Bilbie, of Kewstoke, the noted bell-founder. An inscription on the largest is Thomas Scudamore, gentleman and Mr. Thomas Peckstone, churchwardens, 1739, T.B. There are about 90 monuments or tablets on the interior walls of the Church, the majority of them recording burials of non-residents, the earliest is to the memory of Arthur Sherston, Alderman of the City of Bath, who died 19th March, 1641-2; the next Thomas Peckston, who was Vicar from 1597 to 1643. Collinson, in "History of Somerset," gives a list of a good many memorials, that would be in the old church, probably these have since been added to. A list of the Vicars from 1297 has been placed in the Church. The first on the list, Jordanus, got into trouble because he did not obey the Bull of Pope Boniface VIII., which ordered the clergy not to make a grant to King Edward I. without his licence on pain of excommunication. Herewith is summary of a letter in Bath Abbey Charters, L.I.M.S. No. 540, to Robert, Archbishop of Canterbury, from his devoted son, Jordan, Vicar of Weston, near Bath, greeting with all due reverence and obedience. Chained to this spot by chronic weakness of the flesh: I am unable to come to your reverence's

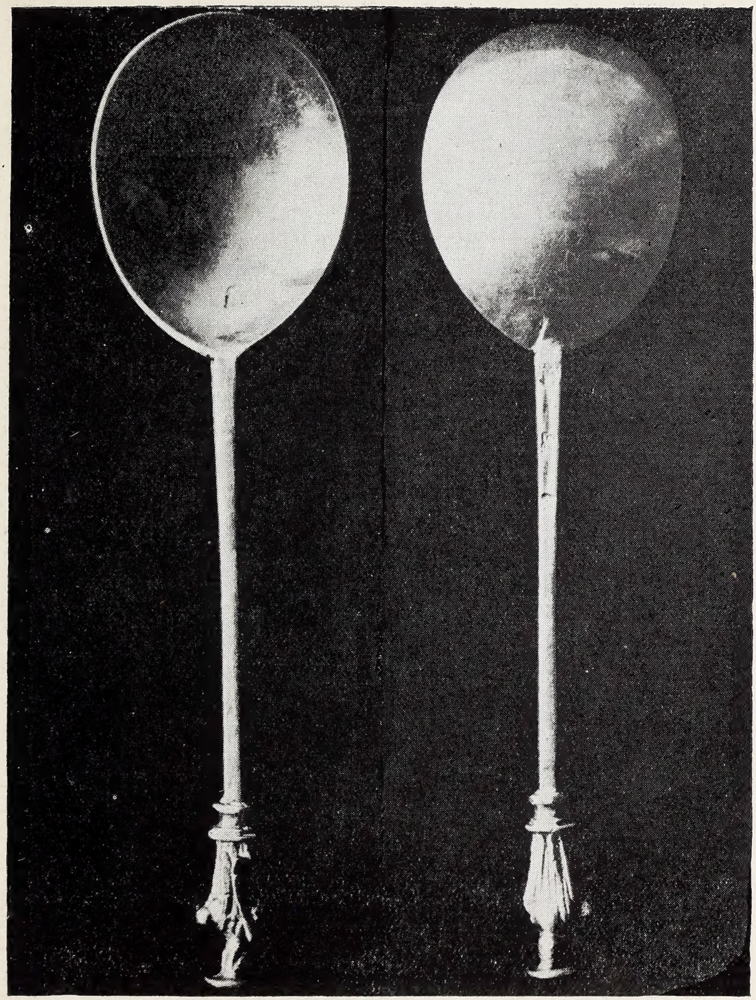
presence. I have sent a clerk beloved to me in the Lord, to seek my absolution from the excommunication I incurred on account of the royal protection accepted under compunction. . . . . The said clerk to take my oaths and perform all necessary rites you wish to ordain according to the papal command. . . . I set my seal and that of the Archdeacon of Bath, given at Weston, 5th November, 1300, No. 574. Declaration by Robert, Archbishop of Canterbury, that he has absolved the said Jordan by William de Claverton, clerk, 17th December, 1300.

There is no further record of the above. The date of the next appointment, John le Knyght is not given. He died and was succeeded by Rob. de Ayschelegh in 1318, who was formerly Rector of Freshford and who in 1339 exchanged with Honr de Forde, Rector of St. Michael's, Bath, who held the living for nine years. The next to mention is Matthew Bremul, or Brennil, who in 1412 exchanged with Thom. Hulle, chapter of the perpetual chantry at the altar of St. Kalixtus of the Cathedral Church of Wells. There were, of course, earlier Vicars than those mentioned above. No. 14 Bath Abbey Charters, L.I.M.S., gives as a witness to the surrender of some property, Robert the chaplain of Weston, about 1200. No. 178, W. (Walter de Anno) Prior present Adam de Karlium, chaplain, to W. (William Button II.), Bishop of Bath and Wells, and pray him to institute Adam de K. to the Vicarage of Weston, near Bath. No date, but probably about 1270.

Of the Church plate that was exhibited, the two pieces that attracted most attention were—first, an Elizabethan Cup with cover. The Cup has stamped on it the date letter for 1572, the cover of which can be used as a paten, is of the usual pattern of that period, and second an Apostle Spoon (illustrated) unique in this Diocese, with date letter for 1614, on the back is pricked 1647 with the initials E.M. and I.D.

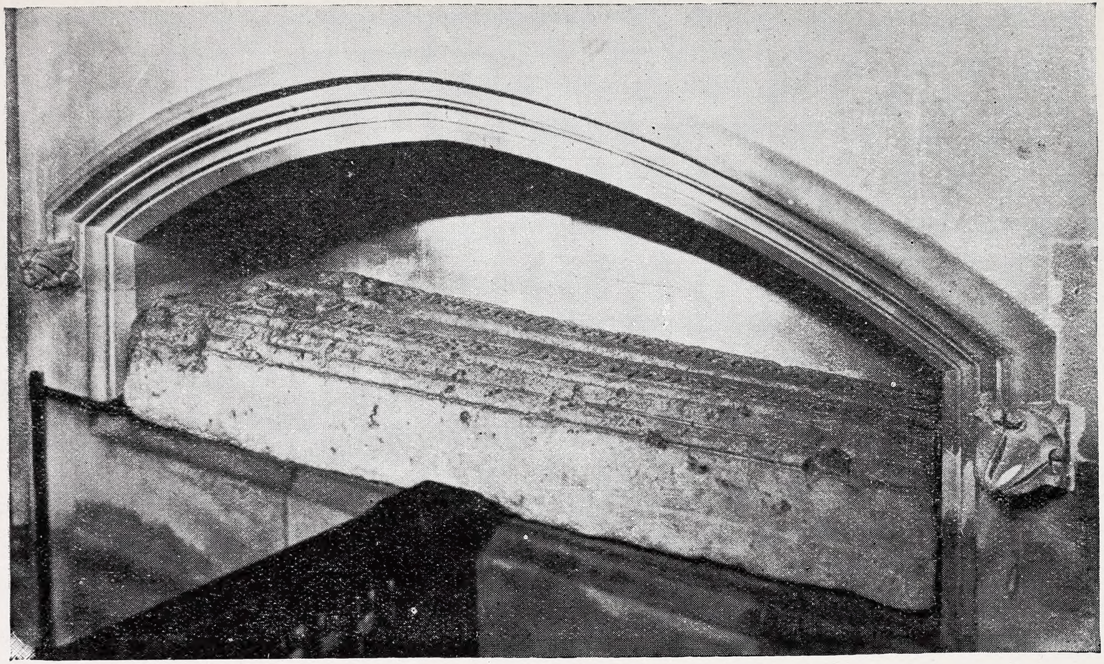
The Registers commence in 1538, three years after their first introduction by Lord Cromwell. There is an entry in the first Register made about 1604, as follows. In the first year of K. James I. it was ordered by a Canon of ye Church that all registers of Churches should be written over again on parchment, whereupon Dr. Powell, Archdeacon of Bath commanded me to do. . . . . This I have done, &c. The ould Register to this day I Keepe and mean to leave it to posterite. Thomas Peekston, Vicarius de Weston juxta Bathon.

A survey of Chantries made in 2 Edw. VI., 1548 Records, Weston juxta Bathe. Obite founded within the paryshe



Photo, Middleton Ashman & Co.

APOSTLE SPOONS, 1614. WESTON CHURCH.



Photo, Mr. Lewin, Herald Office.

MEMORIAL SLAB, WESTON CHURCH.

churche there. "One tenement with a gardeyne ther callyd the churchehouse in thoccupying of the wardeyns of the same churche. . . ijs."

In our Proceedings, 1915, is an illustration of St. Alphege's Well, situated in this parish. Ælpheah or St. Alphege is stated in the Martyrologies to have been born in Weston. He went to Deerhurst, Gloucestershire, but being dissatisfied with the discipline there came to Bath built a hut, and set up as a hermit. For his good work was made an Abbot. No date is given, but he signed as Abbot in 970. With the financial assistance of K. Edgar he built a large Monastery in Bath. (K. Edgar was crowned in the Abbey in 973). In 984 Alphege was appointed Bishop of Winchester, and in 1006, Archbishop of Canterbury. In 1011 he was captured by the Danes, held for ransom, which he declined to pay, and so met a martyr's death in April, 1012.

STONE SLAB, WESTON.

During the rebuilding of the south porch of the parish Church of Weston in 1830, a stone slab—without a coffin—was unearthed, measuring 78½ ins. long, 20 ins. wide, 12 ins. thick. It has the following inscription, with a cross in the centre but no emblem.

GALFRIDI TUMULO REQUIESCVT OSSA SUB ISTO

QUI FUIT ANTISTES H DV FUIT IPSE SUPSTES :

It was first placed in the Vicarage garden, then in the crypt, and a few years back was built into the North wall of the Chancel (see illustration). It has been suggested that it was a coffin lid or a memorial to Godfrey, Bishop of Bath 1123–1135. The Dean of Wells (Dr. J. Armitage Robinson) paid a special visit to the church in October for the purpose of inspecting the slab. The "H D V" he reads "hic dum," and gives the following translation of the inscription :—

Beneath this tomb lie the bones of Geoffrey,

Who was Parish Priest here while yet he lived.

and adds, "Artistes," which usually signifies a Bishop or Abbot, is also used of a "parohess" or Parish Priest : see Ducange's Lexicon. These are rhymed hexameters, and there is a play on "artistes," "superstes," which cannot be reproduced in English. It is as much as if we should say :

Beneath the stones lie Geoffrey's bones,

our Parish Priest, till by death released.

In the Bath Abbey Charters, L.I.M.S. No. 92, Geoffery, the chaplain, witnesses a grant by Robert, Prior 1198–1223, No. 443. Appeal from a sentence against Geoffrey, a monk of Bath. About 1293. No. 558 : Geoffrey resigned vicarage of Bitton, close of 13th century. A Geoffrey de Weston is mentioned in Somerset Pleas (Somt. Record Soc.) 9 Hen. III., 1225, but there is nothing to shew that he was a Priest. There is no record of a Geoffrey vicar of Weston in the 13th century. Galfridus may have been Vicar of Weston, or connected with the Monastery of Bath, Weston being part of the property of that House.

The parish extended from the river Avon, near the Gas works, to the border of Cold Ashton, a length of 3¾ miles, and a width from east to west of about 2 miles, and has an area of 2650 acres. It is bounded on the east by the City and Borough of Bath and the parishes of Charlcombe and Langridge, on the North by Cold Ashton and Bitton, on the West by Northstoke and Kelston, on the South by the Avon—half the river belongs to Weston—on the opposite side of which are Twerton and Newton St. Loe. In the Domesday Survey 1086, Weston is twice mentioned—"The church of Bath holds Westone, in the time of K. Edward is gelded for 15, hides. There is a mill of 10s. rent, &c." "Ernulp de Hesding holds Westone. Edrie held it at the time of K. Edward and gelded for 5 hides. There is a mill of 20s. rent, &c." There are several records relating to the parish in the Bath Abbey Charters. (Vol. 7, Somerset Record Society). No. 11 King Edmund to his faithful minister Æthelere, about 946. (Translation). These are the land divisions, the eight fields that Æthelere owned, that extend along the coast field down to the hedges to the horn corner, along the hedges down to the brook, on to Kingswood. Along the brook up to Bytlescombe to the hedge, from the hedge up one field within the wood, from the field to the old hollow, from the hollow to the old hill, by Ellencumbe, from the old hill to Sleightfield. to the road, from the road to the three fields. This holding is apparently within boundary of the 10 hides.

No. 16 gives the divisions of the 5 hides signed by K. Edwig, about 956. In 1086 Ernulf, or Arnulf de Hesding, held these 5 hides of the King. The next to hold them was Patricius—note to No. 40 says Patricius de Caorgis or de Caurcis married Matilda, daughter and co-heiress of Arnulf de Hesding, whom he succeeded. No. 41, Patricius in 1100 gives the 5 hides to the church of St. Peter, Bath, and to John its Bishop (John de Villula, Bp. 1088–1122). No. 42, K. Henry I. confirms the gift of Patricius who, he states,

held under him. No. 53, Bishop John in 1106 presents the 5 hides to the Priors of Bath. Nos. 58 and 61, K. Stephen and Bp. Robert in 1135 confirm the gift of Patricius de Caurcis. No. 74, Bull of Pope Adrian IV. (Nicholas Brakspear) to Robert, Bp. of Bath, confirms the possessions of the Abbey of S. Peters, Bath, including in the 10 hides at Weston and the 5 hides wherein is a church, A.D. 1156. From 1106 to the dissolution in 1539 the whole of Weston was held by the Priory. Then it passed to the Crown and by an Act of Parliament in 1548 it was confirmed to the King. The Vicarage is still in the gift of the Crown. The Rectory (Rectorial Tithes ?) at the dissolution were let to Richard Cox at £4 per year. Queen Mary in 1553 let it to Robert Cox, in 1563 it was granted to William Horne, who sold it to John Harington, and in 1699 John Harington Esq. conveyed it in trust to the Vicar to provide him with better accommodation.

Tablet.

In Memory
of the pious bounty of
John Harington of Kelston Esqre.
Who made a free and perpetual Donation
of the Rectory to the Minister
upon condition that
he reside.
Anno. Dom. 1699.

The present Vicarage has been built on to a much older building.

Now to return to the records. No. 359, Walter, Prior grants to John, son and heir of Sir John (son) of Sweyn de Weston, of the custody of all the lands which he holds of the Prior in Weston and Berewyk by knight service, together with the marriage of the said John, 1272. No. 360, Mem. That J. de Weston claims to hold in socage the capital messuage with the meadow upon the grange on the south part of the hill of Weston, &c., at the fulling mill 1½ acres, &c. No. 378. Grant by W. (Walter de Anno), Prior, to Thoma de la Hurne of Weston of one corrody, 1286. No. 484, a further grant in 1293, by Thomas (de Winton) Prior. No. 673. Grant by Robert (de Clopcote), Prior to Henry the miller of Bath and Gunulda, his wife, of two water mills, one on the south water course toward Twyverton (Twerton), the other on the north part of the watercourse toward Weston, 1325. No. 836. Grant by John, Prior, to William Berd of Twyverton and Ellen his wife, the water mill in the watercourses towards which Henry Hendemon formerly the miller held, and a plot

of ground called Wythyhey which Gunulda, the wife of aforesaid Henry, held, 1343. Thomas Chepman, of Bath, in his will, 1524, says—" My mylls purchased of the Prior of Bath in the parish of Weston. Wm. Chapman to have the two stocks next Weston, and Robert to have the two stocks next the Weer in the mill of Tweverton." It will be remembered that a mill was mentioned in the Domesday Survey.

No. 707. Grant by Robert, Prior to John ate Boreyete, of the office of farm bailiff of Weston, 1333.

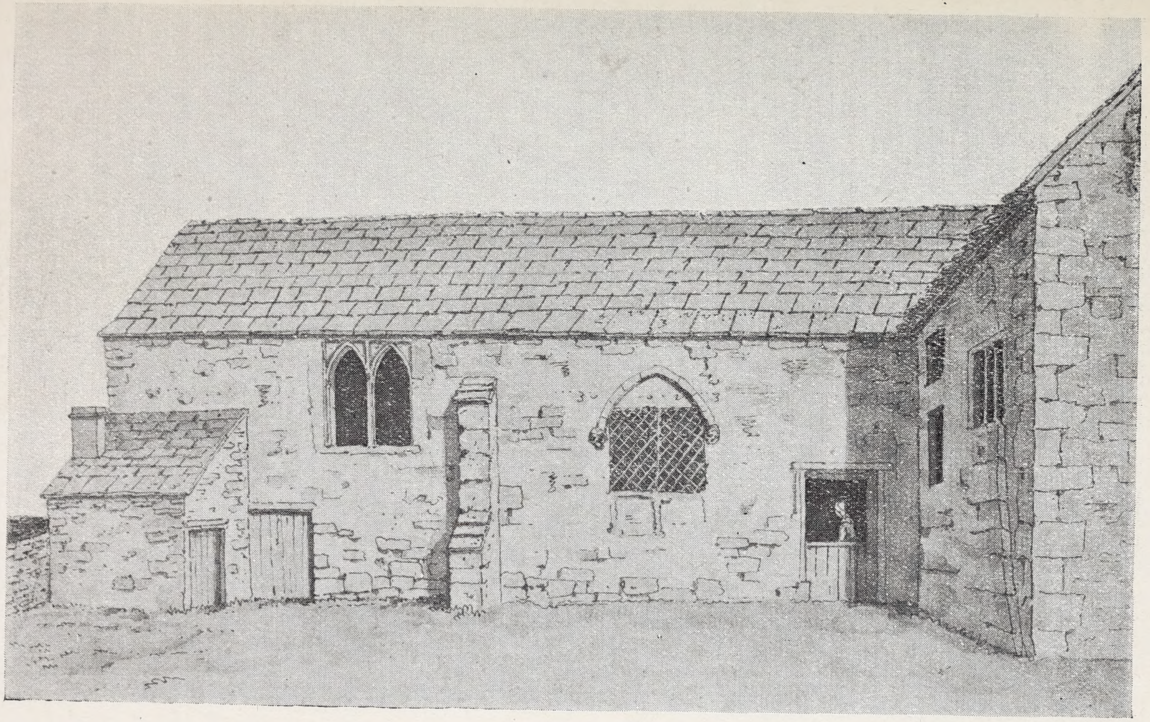
This is the first notification of the appointment of a bailiff, how much of the parish was in his charge is not stated, but probably it did not include Lansdown, neither is there any record for how long this arrangement continued, but it is just possible that the Priors farmed their property for two centuries. In 1535 the Manor and Farm were let by the Prior and convent to Robert Aprice on a 70 years' lease, subject to a reserve by the Prior of 10 bushells of wheat called St. Alphege grist and a spring of water at Lyncombe—(see notes on St. Alphege). In the Saxon boundary of the 5 hides there is " a be wealle to lincumbe " by the well or spring to Lincombe. This is nearly at the top and on the west of the road from Weston to Lansdown. Robert Aprice's will, 9th September, 1578. I bequeath my sowle to Allmightie God and my bodie to be buried in the Church of Weston. All the residue of my goodes I do give unto my sonne William Aprice, whom I make my sole executor. Proved 15th January, 1578–9. Value xxv^{li} ij^{s} iiij^{d}.

The above is an extract from a copy of the will Mr. T. S. Bush obtained from the Probate Court, Wells.

REGISTER—BURIALS.

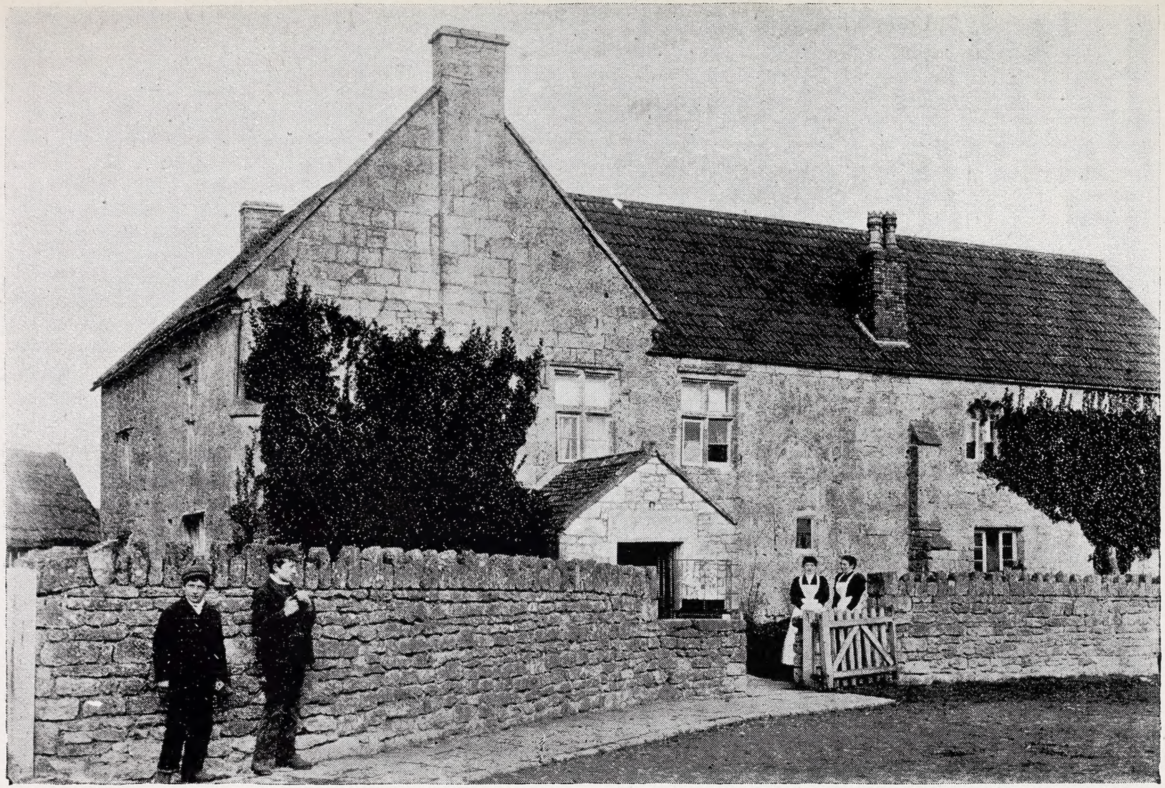
Oct. 16th, 1577. Robert Apprice, the elder farmer.
June 9th, 1591. William Apprice, farmer.

In 1571 the above was granted to Thomas Kerry for 36 years subject to Robert Aprice's lease, with the exception of a mill and 5 acres of land, this having been let to Edward Fellowes and Thomas Phillips. In 1617 K. James I. granted the Manor and lands, except the mill and land to Trustees for the term of 99 years for the benefit of his son Charles, who in 1628 sold the Manor to the Corporation of London, reserving a fee-farm rent of £73 5s. 7½d., the same as Kerry's rent. These rents were in 1671 purchased by Sir Walter Long who bequeathed them to Sir Philip Parker ; he in 1708 took the name of Long. In about 1750 these rents were purchased by the Oliver family. A tablet in the Church records the death



Sketch, S. M. Grimm, 1790. *British Museum.*

NORTH SIDE, ST. LAWRENCE CHAPEL, LANSDOWN.



SOUTH SIDE, ST. LAWRENCE CHAPEL, LANSDOWN.

in Bath on March 17th, 1764, of William Oliver, M.D., F.H.S., a noted physician. He was the first physician of the Mineral Water Hospital. His name has come down to us as the inventor of "Oliver biscuits." So far Lansdown has not been separately recorded. In 1680 Gowdies Farm, which formed part of the Manor Farm of Lansdown, was purchased by Mr. Whittington of Mr. Shephard. In 1690 Mr. Blathwayt, Secretary of State to William and Mary, purchased the Parks and other lands on Lansdown and in 1701 he purchased the Manor Farm of Lansdown of Mr. Shephard, who was the owner of St. Lawrence Chapel, Lansdown. The earliest known record of this Chapel is in the Bath Abbey Charters, L.I.M.S., No. 95 (Somt. R.S.) Grant by Robert, Prior (1198–1223) to Nicholas Lantesdun of a messuage, which he had of Peter de Bath for term of his life, upon condition that if by the advice of the Venerable Father the Lord Bishop of Bath and Glastonbury, the said Prior should offer a suitable exchange the said Nicholas should return the same messuage at the right of the chapel of Lantesdun.

Bp. Jocelin Trotman dropped the title Glastonbury in 1219, so the Grant must have been made between 1208 when he was elected Bishop and 1219. The Chapel is further mentioned. No. 861 Covenant by Henry de Caumpedene that he will preserve the Prior indemnified against all suit for the chapel of Lantesdon. Dated the morrow of the Feast of SS. Peter and Vincula, 1344. At the dissolution in 1535, the whole of Weston passed to the Crown. K. Edward VI. granted the manor of Landsdon together with the advowson of the Rectory of Lancesdon to Lord Clynton and Saye, reserving to the King the bells and lead, and giving power to convert the Rectory to private uses. In the same year Lord Clinton and Saye sold the same to Sir Richard Sackvyll. Of the illustrations of the Chapel, the south view shews the domestic buildings on the left, these were probably converted from a resthouse. Patent Roll, 18 Elizabeth, part 4 (A.D. 1576), Lansdown. Grant to Thomas Kery to save to him and to his heirs two marts or fairs upon the Manor there, viz., on the day of S. John, before the Latin Gate till vespers the next day and the second to begin the meridian of the vigil of St. Lawrence, and to last for three days.

Patent Roll, 20 Elizabeth, part 2. Grant to Thomas Kery and his heirs. The sheepfold built upon Launces Downe Pasture Common and sleights at Langridge. Depasturing for 360 beves and wethers within the Manor of Launcesdowne.

A fair has been held on St. Lawrence day, August 10th, in a field on the opposite side of the road to the Chapel for many

years. At one time it was an important one, but has dwindled of late years.

The Rev. C. W. Shickle has favoured us with these two Patent Rolls.

Farmhouse called The Grange, Weston.

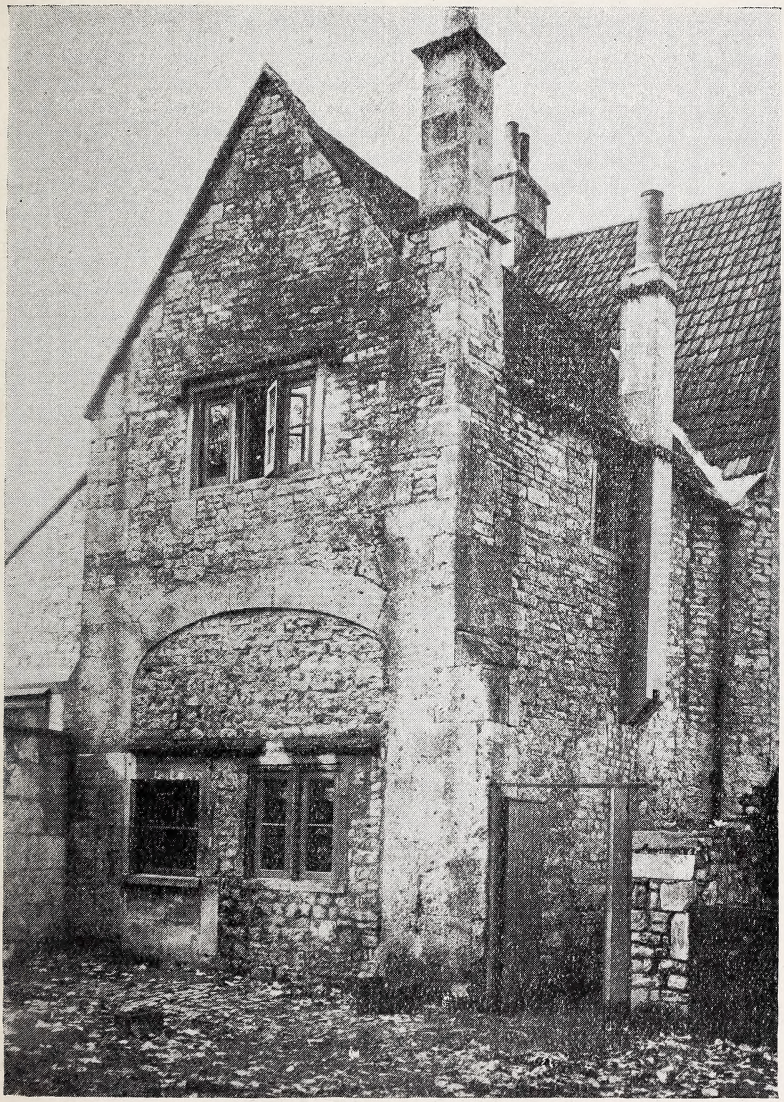
Mr. Mowbray A. Green, F.R.I.B.A.

Near the Manor House stands a building (illustrated) which was no doubt a Tithe Barn at the commencement of a lease of the Demesne by the Monastery to Robert Apprice in 1535. Parts of the main building were pulled down about 1780, and the remainder, consisting of the central portion with the north and south wings and a small part of the east and west main building, were converted into a farmhouse now known as the Grange. Over the north door or waggon-way is an original trefoil window and the arch and jambs of the door are in good preservation, though blocked up with modern work. Similarly much of the southern arch remains, but it is almost entirely blocked up. The mullioned windows in the east end were probably taken from some 17th century building and inserted here. A buttress—probably the westernmost one—on the south side remains attached to the wall of the Manor House stables. The roof was repaired in 1858. The timbers of the crossing remain and are nearly all visible in the upper floor of the Farm house. Some of the larger ones appear to be old ship timbers and are of great size. They are bored with a number of small holes and taper from top to bottom. The wings of the barn are at a lower level than the main building, and the woodwork in the north one has a greater finish than the rest of the work. The wood in part resembles sweet chesnut, but most of it is oak. In addition to the existing ground floor, upper floors have been added in the height of the barn. Extract from Bath Abbey Charters, L.I.M.S., No. 360. About A.D. 1273. Memorandum. That J. de Weston claims to hold in socage the capital messuage with the meadow upon the grange on the south part of the vill of Weston and one virgate of land in the fields containing in one field 15 acres and in the other 15 acres.

Roman Road, etc., Weston.

Thos. S. Bush.

The Roman Road (via Julia) that traverses the parish has not been traced except on the West, but the general opinion is that it lay north of the present road. In the Bath Field Club Proceedings, 1906, Mr. Trice Martin reports upon cuttings



Photo, Mr. Lewin, Herald Office.

FARMHOUSE, THE GRANGE, WESTON.

made across a road that lies between Prospect Stile and Kelston Knoll, and concludes, " If then we review the evidence as a whole, it points with some certainty to this being a Roman road." He futher very briefly reports on cuttings made through a bank in Home field, north of the Church and in Mead Field, to the west. Between these fields there is a slight bend, so that the line of the bank is more directly west and towards Broadmoor lane, which leads to the road referred to above. Nothing was found in the banks to give a clue to the date of their formation. It is possible that in making the banks the road—presuming there was one—was destroyed. It seems clear that these banks formed a defence to the village. This is somewhat confirmed by there being in Mead field a bank at right angles that appears to be in a line with the earthworks on Penn Hill. In a field a short distance east of Home field, is or was a slight elevation that may be a road. When times become normal it would be interesting to explore here as well as in a field adjoining Home field.

In our Branch Proceedings, 1904, Mr. Lawrence Bulleid reports that during the making a trench in the field owned by Mr. W. Carr, he picked up 350 bits of pottery and 35 parts of rims of different vessels, and at the side of the trench were stones placed in position, apparently a wall. It is just possible here is a building. No Roman Villa has been discovered in the parish—the nearest at Newton St. Loe was opened up during the making of the G. W. Railway—but there are evidences of buildings to the north of Partis College, adjacent to an old road. On the site of the College many Roman coffins with skeletons were unearthed and others have been found scattered about the parish. On Lansdown considerable explorations have been carried out, 1905–13, on Roman and pre-Roman sites of occupation, particulars of which are fully reported in several numbers of our Proceedings.

HISTORY OF CLAVERTON.

Rev. D. Lee Pitcairn.

A meeting was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution, Bath, on Wednesday, January 23rd, at 3 o'clock. The Rev. A. H. Scott-White, Rector of Claverton in the Chair, when the Rev. D. Lee Pictairn, read a Paper on the history of that Parish.

The name "Claverton" furnishes no connection with British Antiquity, having no Celtic element in it, but the locality supplies evidence of pre-Roman occupation. For on the down above Claverton, Hampton Down in fact, lie the extensive remains of a Belgie camp, or rather fortified town. They are so considerable as to show that this must have been, in pre-historic times, a place of importance.

The name Claverton, and perhaps the first settlement of the present site, belongs to Anglo Saxon times. About the derivation and meaning of the name different theories have been advanced. Collinson settled the matter easily, saying that it is derived no doubt from some Saxon owner. Others have sought for a more picturesque origin of the name. Wood says that it is composed of the Roman "Clavis"—a key, and the Saxon "tun," a town. The opinion of Professor Earle is that the original form of the name was "Clatford town," meaning the settlement by the ford of the waterlily. Clat or Clot is the Saxon word for the waterlily. Barnes in his poems calls the stour "the Cloty stour" from its waterlilies. And waterlilies certainly abound in the Avon at the ford between Claverton and Warleigh, a meadow there being still called from them "Clot Mead."—That is a very poetic deviation. But there is another one suggested by Mr. R. E. Peach in "Rambles about Bath and its Neighbourhood." It is this: "The name in Domesday Book is not Claverton, but Clafterton, derived apparently from the Saxon word "Claefter" or "Claver," signifying cleft grass or clover. This suggests that the Manor contained a large extent of pasture, and hence was called the Clover village."

The Manor of Claverton is thus described in Domesday Book. "Hugolin holds Claftertone. Suain held it in the time of King Edward, and gelded for 5 hides. The arable is 6

carucates, and there are 4 rillanes, and 7 cottages with 4 serfs and a mill of 7s. 6d. rent, and 20 acres of meadow, and 12 furlongs of pasture in length and breadth. It was formerly and is now worth £7."

Upon this entry it may be remarked that the 12 furlongs of pasture compared with the small amount of arable go to confirm the above explanation of Claftertone as meaning "the Clover village." The population is very small. There are only 15 men enumerated, and on the assumption that all these were married men on the ordinary calculation of 5 persons to each family the total population of the place would be only 65.

Hugolin who is styled in Domesday Book "Interpres," is supposed to have been the King's Interpreter. He is also said to have been one of the justiciaries to whom William I. entrusted the compilation of Domesday Book. In the following reign we find Claverton is the possession of Hugo cum Barbâ, who is held by the late Mr. Henry Skrine of Claverton Manor to be identical with Hugolin: but by Mr. R. S. Peach, or by Dr. Lunstall whom he follows, to be a different person into whose hands the Manor had passed. Hugo is quite a common name in Domesday Book among land-holders in Somerset. Anyhow Hugo cum Barbâ, distinguished I suppose by that ornament among the shaven chins of the Normans, sold the Manor to John of Tours, or John de Villula, Bishop of Bath, together with Warleigh and Hampton and part of Easton (Batheaston)—a very pretty property almost in a ring fence, affording no doubt certain sporting advantages. That Claverton was to some extent a sporting ground may be inferred from the fact that Bishop Button of Bath and Wells in 1257 obtained from King Henry III. a charter of Freewarren on all his lands in this parish. One of the fields still bears the name of Cony-gre. Soon after this Bishop Button procured a grant by which the Manor of Claverton, together with Hampton, should be exempt from the jurisdiction of the Hundred of Bathforum, and should form a liberty by themselves.

Returning to Bishop John de Villula, after his purchase of Claverton he endowed the Abbey of Bath with this and other Manors, but afterwards resumed possession of them as Bishop. It is to be remembered that the Bishop was also Abbot of Bath. In this way Claverton escaped the fate of the other Manors, some fourteen, belonging to the Abbey at the Dissolution, and was exchanged by Bishop Barlow in 1548 with King Edward VI. for other lands in the county. Soon after in 4th year of Edward VI. it was granted to Matthew Colthurst

of Wardour Castle, Wilts, whose son Edmund in 1588 sold both the manor and the advowson of the living to Edward. Hungerford, Esq., from whose family it passed into the possession of that of Estcourt. In 1609 Sir Thomas Estcourt sold the estate to William Bassett, Esq., whose monument is in the chancel of the Church. His grandson having deeply mortgaged it, it was bought in 1701 by Richard Holder, Esq., for a price of £21,367 7*s*. od., including in the purchase 4 hogsheads of wine from the vineyards of Claverton, valued at £28. In 1714 it was sold again by his son to William Skrine, Esq., of Bath.

In 1758 William Skrine's son sold the manor to Ralph Allen, of Prior Park.

Ralph Allen died in 1764 and was buried at Claverton. His large pyramidal tomb is conspicuous in the churchyard. It is referred to in the following entry in the Parish Register, dated October 18th, 1862 :—" In the vault beneath Ralph Allen's Mausoleum are Ten Bodies deposited, the last being that of Annie Elizabeth, wife of Major Allen, interred this day. W. Hale, rector." He bequeathed Claverton to his niece, Lucilla Graves, who in his lifetime had married Bishop Warburton and after the Bishop's death married the Rev. Martin Stafford Smith. At her death the Estate, together with property in Widcombe, came into the possession of Allen Tucker, Esq., son of Capt. Tucker, Ralph Allen's nephew, who died in 1816.

The Claverton property was then purchased by John Vivian Esq., who was for many years Solicitor to the Excise and by whom the present mansion was built. He bequeathed it to his second son, George Vivian, Esq., a gentleman of great literary taste as well as an accomplished artist. The Widcombe property left by Ralph Allen passed from Allen Tucker to Major Ralph T. Allen, M.P., while the Claverton property was acquired in the middle of last century by Mr. Skrine, of Warleigh.

The present Manor House, to which I have already alluded, has had two predecessors. The first stood in a field south of the Church. No vestige of it is now known to remain. It was erected by Bishop Ralf de Salopia about the year 1340. As it is stated (Warner's History of Bath) that " he rebuilt the mansion house from the ground," it is clear that there had been an earlier house, and this was the second. This prelate was one of the most munificent of the early bishops. He built the Vicars' close and some of the Choristers' houses at Wells, as well as the Church of Winscombe. To this Court House succeeded a noble mansion erected by Sir Edward

Hungerford, of Heytesbury, in 1588. It occupied an imposing site immediately above a noble flight of 30 stone steps a little to the north of the Church. According to Collinson, who saw it, " it was a noble old building, having a courtyard, and a very lofty wall with iron gates in front." In the Library of this Institution there is a book by Mr. R. E. Peach, entitled " Rambles about Bath and its Neighbourhood," having as its frontispiece a view of a part of the Manor House. But the steps and terraces with their carved stone fronting are the main portion that now survives. According to Mr. R. E. Peach there is a small portion of the house still left, which was used as the dairy, and was a part of the west wing. It is still to be seen on the north side of the Church, and is the gardener's house. It has a large coat of arms carved in stone—presumably the Hungerford arms. Other details of the mansion are preserved in engravings in a book composed by Mr. Vivian, enough to shew that this Manor House was a fine specimen of domestic architecture, and that its destruction must be considered, from an artistic point of view, a public misfortune.

The late Mr. Edward Davis, an able Bath Architect, writing in 1845, says—" Whilst Sir Walter Hungerford was building Hetling House, his town residence, John of Padua was engaged at Longleat, at a house at Bradford, known as " The Duke's House," and at Claverton, all within a few miles of one another and of Hetling House. If the building of all these mansions was going on simultaneously under the direction of John of Padua, Claverton House would have been begun about 1570. But, according to Mr. Vivian, it was not finished until 1625, inasmuch as when the house was pulled down in 1820, a leaden pipe-head was discovered, bearing the escutchion and initials of William Bassett." The fact stated by Mr. Davis would show also that Sir Walter Hungerford, who died in 1526, was the owner of Claverton, previous to the Estcourts, and was building Claverton at the same time that he was building his Bath town house.

The present Manor House was built on the crest of the hill, high above the Church, by John Vivian Esq., early in the nineteenth century and contains some elaborate and beautiful stone and other work belonging to the former mansion, built by Sir Edward Hungerford.

The Church is of the 15th century with nave, chancel and north aisle. It has a charming porch and a square tower with pack saddle roof. The tower was restored in 1876. Over the west porch there is a bent cross, and near the south porch a scratch dial.

On the nor h wall of the chancel is an alabaster monument of the early part of the 17th century, representing a gentleman, a lady and a child. The figures are in very good preservation, and coloured, the gentleman in armour of the period, the lady with a large ruff, the baby in swaddling clothes, like a little mummy. From the inscriptions in Latin it is seen to be the monument of William Bassett, Esq., who died in 1613 at the age of 38. This is the Bassett who in 1609 bought the manor of Claverton from Sir Thomas Estcourt, and was probably the son of an elder William Bassett, whose monument is in Monkton Combe Church, and who died in 1586 at the age of 80. The lady was Mary, daughter of Moses Tryon Esq., of Harringworth, wife of a third William Bassett. She died on May 13th, 1628, and her baby survived her only 10 days. The widower then erected this joint monument to her and to his own father. Near it is the monument of Richard Graves, rector, of whom I shall have more to say, who died in 1804 at the age of 90. The monument of Lucy Graves, his wife, consisting of a large urn, is concealed by the organ. On the south wall is the monument of John Clutterbuck, of Widcombe, who died in 1766. It represents a female figure reclining gracefully in a mourning attitude on an urn. The family of Skrine and others have also monuments in the Church.

The stained glass in the Church consists chiefly of modern memorial windows in good taste, but there are two windows put up by Mr. George Vivian containing old glass of various periods. One in the south wall of the nave has in the centre the arms of the Bishop of Wells (without Bath) *Azure a Saltire per saltire Argent*, with a bishop's mitre for crest. But Bath was united with Wells as the Bishop's See in 1090, and since that year the arms of the Bishop have associated the arms of Bath Abbey with those of Wells. There are also other coats of arms in the window. Opposite to this in the north aisle is the other window put up by Mr. George Vivian, with several pieces of old glass of much interest, though not of much congruity. Conspicuous are the arms of King Henry VI. and his Queen Margaret of Anjou, the latter's shield displaying in one of its quarterings the cross and crosslets Potence, which belonged to her father as King of Jerusalem. These shields are surmounted by royal crowns, above them are seen the Roses of York and Lancaster separately. Other parts of the window shew the arrest in Gethsemane and the return home of Tobias.

In one of the Church Registers it is recorded that in 1763 Ralph Allen, Esq., improved the inside of the Church and chancel, made the stone altar and altarpiece, gave a new

font, &c., and that he also in 1764 made the gallery for the singers, which was first used at his funeral on the 5th of July in that year. That gallery has shared the fate of many minstrel galleries. You would look for it in vain now. Mr. Cambridge, in his interesting lecture on Metrieal Psalmody given in this room on March 30th, 1917, last, deplored the loss of those village orchestras, and wished for their revival.

Then there is another entry in the same register that Ric. Graves, Rector and Patron of the Living of Claverton, rebuilt the chancel, which cost about £50, in the Summer of 1788.

The Church Plate comprises :—

Solid Silver Chalice with cover, date 1573.

Solid Silver Platen, plain, presented by Mrs. Clutterbuck in 1776, date 1776.

Silver Paten with figures inchased, inscription in Greek.

ΙΔΕ Ο ΑΜΝΟΣ ΤΟ ΘΕΟU Ο ΑΙΡWΝ

ΤΗΝ ΑΜΑRΤΙΑΝ ΤΟU ΚΟΣΜΟU

Presented by Richard Graves in 1783 as
Antiquae Artis Opus.

Silver Flagon, gift of Ralph Vivian, 1862.

Small Silver set for Private Communion, presented by Elizth. Vivian, 1852, in place of others that were stolen.

There is a curious mention of Claverton in the 13th century.

During the reign of Edward I. there are two very interesting presentiments of juries impanelled to enquire as to invasions of the King's proprietary rights within the city of Bath. The jurors' presentiment contains amongst other matter mention of the following :—

" The withdrawal of several persons ecclesiastic and lay from the suit which they owed to the King's Court, and the withdrawal of the villages of Claverton and Hampton from their obligation to mow the King's meadow (or King's mead) to the loss of the King each year 20s. 6d."

Sir William Bassett, of Claverton Manor, was Member of Parliament for Bath during a part of the Great Rebellion, 1640 to 1645. In the latter year Parliament expelled him, not for any proved or even alleged offence, but on account of his loyalty. In 1643 this Sir William Bassett was entertaining Sir Edward Hungerford of Farley Castle and other knights and gentlemen of the King's party at Claverton Manor, when a cannon ball, fired from the opposite Down near Monkton

Farleigh, passed through the wall as they sat at dinner. There was at once a call to Boot and Saddle, and a skirmish took place in a field near the ferry. The sequel of this affair is found in an entry in the Church Register as follows :— " Upon the 30th day of June, 1643, there was buried in the Churchyard under the South wall three soldiers killed of the Parlt Party and one of the Royal party in an unhappie civil warre at the river side in the Ham meadow in Claverton."

Then there follows :—

" N.B.—The skeletons of these men were digged up when the ground was dug for Mr. Allen's Mausoleum."

And then in the Register this note :—

" N.B.—The battle of Lansdown in which Sir Bevil Grenville was slain, was on July the 4th in 1643. And Lord Clarendon (in his own life) mentions a party of the King's forces that marched from Bradford and passed the ford at Claverton that year, probably in an intent to join Sir B. Grenville and the Marquis of Hertford."

I have already alluded to vineyards at Claverton, a place where one would not expect to find any, and cannot in fact find any now. The subject is of sufficient interest to excuse a diversion into a wider view of it by way of explanation. For the following facts I am indebted to *The Victoria History of the Counties of England.*

" Vine culture, if only on a limited scale, would seem to have been an ancient industry of Somerset. The earliest notice of vineyards occurs, according to Canon Ellacombe, in a confirmation of a grant by King Edwy to Glastonbury Abbey in the 10th century. Domesday assigns to the Church at Glastonbury—3 arpents with 2 arpents at Mere (Meare), and 3 arpents at Padaneberie (Panborough).

A ruined wall and the field name of " The Vineyards " still mark the site of the Meare vine industry. According to an inquisition made by Abbot Henry de Soliaes in 1189, several tenants of the Abbey of Glastonbury were bound to assist in the vineyard, either at digging, pruning, or gathering in the vintage, one tenant " Elvinus Custos Vinie " apparently having chief charge. Similar references to labour services in the vineyard are also noted in the 13th century rental of this religious house.

At the time of the Dissolution reference is made to lands called " Vineyats," whilst on the southern slope of Wirrall Hill is a site named " Vineyards " as at Meare. There were also vineyards at Dunster and Minehead, belonging to the Mohuns : the former ceased to be cultivated in the reign of

Henry IV., and was added to the Park. A vineyard at Timberscombe was granted by the Prior of Bath to Richard le Tort in 1245. At Bath " a close of pasture called the Vineyards " is mentioned in the reign of Elizabeth. As late as 1805 there were vineyards at Claverton, £28 having been paid by Richard Holder who bought the Vineyards farm in 1701, for four hogsheads of wine from the same."

The causes of this culture of the vine in England are not far to seek. Down to modern times foreign wine to our people meant French wine. But in the early ages commerce was restricted, and during the centuries of our wars with France the door of trade was shut. So the English had either to become wine producers or to do without. The Monasteries especially required wine for religious purposes, and were not indifferent to its convivial use. Hence the vineyards at Glastonbury and Bath. Claverton, sheltered by the Down and with a sunny exposure, was evidently a favourable site for a vineyard.

The first rector of Claverton whose name is recorded was Adam de Nottingham, who is mentioned in Bath Abbey Charters at the date 1304 as " Sir Adam." The next rector, Thomas de Retford, was inducted in 1311. The first seven rectors down to 1333 preserve the preposition " De," or " de " before their surnames. After this it vanishes. The eighth rector is Richard Benet, then William Canon, and so on.

A list of the Rectors of Claverton, 1311 to 1721, is given in " Weavers' Somerset Incumbents." In 1749 Richard Graves was inducted, 1805 Morgan Graves, 1808 Harvey Marriot, 1847 David Davies, 1851 William Hall, 1868 Charles Gladwin, 1879 John Ed. Waldy, 1896 Rob. V. S. Penfold, 1898 John Roland Davis, and in 1911 the present Rector, A. H. Scott-White.

There were 24 rectors before the Reformation, the date of induction being given in most cases. From the Reformation period to 1646 there were three rectors. During the Commonwealth there was one; and from the Restoration to the present time there have been 14, including the present incumbent.

Out of these I need only name three or four. It is interesting to find that the rector in the time of Henry VIII. was Walter Hungerford, although the family of Hungerford did not acquire the Manor and Advowson until 1588.

Dr. Humphrey Chambers was a man of some note in his time, which was the stirring time of the Stuarts. He was born in Somerset, and educated at University College, Oxford. In 1623 he was inducted to the rectory of Claverton, but being a Puritan he was at last silenced by his diocesan, Bishop

Piers, for preaching up the morality of the Sabbath, no doubt some very Puritanical doctrine, and was imprisoned for two years. In 1643, after the beginning of the Civil war, he was chosen by Parliament to be a member of the Assembly of Divines, which sat at Westminster, and produced the Catechisms and Directory for Public Worship, which are still the formularies of the Presbyterians in Scotland and elsewhere. In the same year, 1643, he was selected to preach before the House of Commons in St. Margaret's, Westminster, on the occasion of "their publique fast," Sept. 27th. A lengthy sermon. I have seen it, for the present rector has a printed copy of it. It is not clear to me whether this was the usual monthly fast, held on the last Wednesday of every month, or a special one. But the King's opinion of it is given in a proclamation from Oxford, dated October 5th in the same year. He says :—

"When we observe what ill use has been made of these public meetings, in pulpits, in prayers, and in the sermons of many seditious lecturers, to stir up and continue the rebellion raised against us within this Kingdom. . . . we thought fit to command that such a hypocritical fast to the dishonour of God and slander of true religion be no longer continued and countenanced by our authority."

This just eight days after the sermon. I am afraid his Majesty King Charles had not a high opinion of the Rector of Claverton.

The following entry in the parish register refers no doubt to these frequent fasts, which were observed and enforced with great strictness.

"March, 1639. Mem. That I Humphrey Chambers parson of Claverton did grant a license to eat flesh this day to William Basset Esq. of Claverton by reason of his notorious sickness which sickness of his is yet continuing; I doe now continew his seyd licence according to the Statute and have according to the Lawe here registered the same. The day and year above written. In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand. HUMPHREY CHAMBERS."

This Bassett of course was the Lord of the Manor.

In 1648 Chambers was created Doctor of Divinity, and was presented by the Earl of Pembroke to the rich rectory of Pewsey. After the King's Restoration he kept his living till the very day the act of Uniformity came into force, when, having preached his farewell sermon (on Psalm cxxvi. 6—"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves

with him") (which may indicate that he expected to be restored to his rectory), he went home, fell sick, and died, and was buried in his Church at Pewsey, without the service of the Church. There is a stone to his memory in the sanctuary at Claverton. It does not claim to mark his grave—there is no "Here lieth the body." It no doubt was erected long after his death by persons who thought him a link in local history that ought to be commemorated in the Church where he had ministered. But the date of his death is given on the tablet as 1646, by mistake, since this is two years earlier than his leaving Claverton for Pewsey, and 16 years before he actually died.

We pass over about a century and find another Rector of Claverton, who, though a man of a very different sort from the last mentioned, was also a man of note in his day, which was the classical age of Beau Nash and Ralph Allen.

Richard Graves, the second son of Richard Graves, Esq., of Mickleton in the county of Gloucester, was born in May, 1715. He was educated at Abingdon School, Berkshire, and then chosen Scholar of Pembroke College, Oxford. He was originally intended to study medicine, but turned his attention to the Church. At Oxford he was the intimate friend of Sir William Blackstone and of Shenston. Having taken his degree of B.A. he was in 1726 elected Fellow of All Souls' College, where he continued eleven years. In 1747 his friend William Fitzherbert, Esq., presented him to the Perpetual Curacy of Tilsington near Ashbourne in Derbyshire. In the following year on the 11th of June, 1748, he was nominated to the Rectory of Claverton by William Skrine, Esq., Lord of the Manor and Patron. Subsequently in September, 1763, on the application of Ralph Allen, who had then become Lord of the Manor of Claverton, the Lord Chancellor, Northington, presented Graves to the Vicarage of Kilmersdon with Ashwick annexed. Ralph Allen also procured for him the appointment to be Chaplain to the Countess Dowager of Chatham, conferring the right to wear a chaplain's scarf. Finally towards the end of his life, he was presented to the Rectory of Crosscombe, Somerset. The manners of the time would permit him to hold all these preferments in plurality, as no doubt he did. But he fixed his residence at Claverton, where he lived to the end of his life, and where he was buried. One of his biographers, to show his devotion to his parish, says that "in 56 years he was never one month absent from his ministerial duties there." His other parishes then cannot have seen much of him. Another biographer, illustrating his continued good health, relates that up to an advanced age he

used to walk into Bath every day. Considering the hill that lies between, the fact speaks well for his lungs and his legs. He enlarged the rectory house, erecting the gabled building that is now the southern end of it. Here he took in pupils and kept a kind of school.

In the Church Register there is an entry as follows :—

" 1768. Ric. Graves, Rector and Patron of the living of Claverton, built the south end of the Parsonage house : cost about £200."

His character is thus described by Mr. R. E. Peach in " Rambles about Bath."

" He possessed a mind cultivated with great care, a natural politeness and a simplicity of manners, which concealed a spirit ardent in search of truth. His prevailing eccentricity was an exaggerated love of order—his friendships were ennobled by cheerfulness and piety—his classical learning was extensive—his poetry chaste, and his writings breathe the true spirit of Christianity."

A lengthy list of his works is given in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. 74, page 1166. But the only one for which he is remembered is *The Spiritual Quixote*—a satire on the Methodist Revival of that time, which of course appeared to a man like Graves to be highly irregular and unsound. A kindly satire nevertheless. Wesley and Whitfield, in the brief glimpses given of them, are treated with respect, and the young hero, a disciple of Wesley's, was recognised to be the author's own brother. One great interest of the book at the time was the veiled introduction of well known people in some of the minor parts. The main interest of is now is the faithful view it gives of the manners and customs of the time, among which comes in the importance of the Wayside Inn for chance meetings and adventures. The author, as we might expect, brings his hero in the course of his travels to Bath, and gives a sketch of fashionable life, the characters in which were probably recognisable.

Graves was buried at Claverton on Nov. 30th, 1804, at the age of 90, and was succeeded in the rectory by Morgan Graves, presumably his son ; since whom, in a space of a hundred and ten years, there have been eight rectors.

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1913 MAULE Major-General, 2, Penn Lea, Newbridge Hill.
1906 *MILLER THOMAS H., Esq., St. Albans, Weston Park (Deceased).
1907 MILLER Mrs., St. Albans, Weston Park.
1913 MILSOM A. C., Esq., De Montalt, Combe Down.
1913 MILSOM Mrs., De Montalt, Combe Down.
1916 MILSOM F. H., Esq., Audley Lodge.
1916 MILSOM Mrs. F. H., Audley Lodge.
1917 MOLESWORTH Brigadier-General, C.B., Elstree House, Lambridge.
1909 MULES Rev. F. H., 17, Pulteney Road.

1910 NASH Lieut.-Colonel, 7, Laura Place.
1910 NASH Mrs., 7, Laura Place.
1912 NEWHAM Miss, 11, Raby Place, Bathwick.
1903 *NORMAN GEORGE, Esq., F.S.A.I., 12, Brock Street.
1907 NORMAN Mrs., 12, Brock Street.
1913 NORMAN Miss, Oakfield, Weston Park.

1917 O'SULLIVAN Dr., Glencairn, Bathwick.
1918 O'SULLIVAN Miss, Glencairn, Bathwick.

1912 PARRY HUBERT, Esq., 1, Belcombe, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 PERKES Rev. R. M., Court Essington, Midford.
1913 PHILLIMORE J. E., Esq., East India U.S. Club, 16, St. James's Square, S.W.
1904 PITCAIRN Rev. D. LEE, M.A., 1, Laura Place.
1904 PITCAIRN Mrs., 1, Laura Place.
1918 PITT WALTER, Esq., Southstoke House.
1911 PITT Mrs., Southstoke House.
1913 POWELL Rev. W. H., D.D., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1911 POWELL Mrs. W. H., 15, Lansdown Crescent.
1915 POWELL Mrs., 12, Rivers Street.
1907 PRYCE ERNEST, Esq., 10, Cavendish Crescent.
1906 PRYCE Mrs., 10, Cavendish Crescent.

1909 RODMAN Miss, 17, The Tyning.
1903 ROLLESTON Colonel V., Saltford House, Bristol.
1903 ROLLESTON S. V., Esq., B.C.L., M.A., Saltford House, Bristol.
1914 ROSE Mrs. H. FULLWOOD, 93, Sydney Place.

1904 SALMON Miss E. E., 26, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1904 SALMON Miss L. M., 30, Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down.
1903 *SCOTT M. H., Esq., 5, Lansdown Place, West.
1910 SCOTT Mrs., 28, The Circus.
1917 SCOTT-WHITE Rev. A. H., Claverton Rectory.
1915 SEGAR EDWARD, Esq., Bella Vista, Lansdown.
1915 SEGAR Mrs., Bella Vista, Lansdown.
1918 SHICKLE Rev. C. W., F.S.A., 9, Cavendish Crescent.
1907 SHUM F. E., Esq., 6, Bathwick Hill.
1903 *SIBBALD G. E., Esq., Mount Pleasant, Norton St. Philip.
1903 SPENDER Miss, 8, Forester Road.
1903 *STRACHIE Lord, Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol.
1911 STRAGHAN Mrs., 26, Crescent Gardens.
1912 STRANGWAYS Miss R. C., 6, Brunswick Place.

1918 Taite Miss, 15, Somerset Place.
1915 Tanner J. H., Esq., 12, Beaufort East.
1915 Tanner Mrs., 12, Beaufort East.
1904 Taylor A. J., Esq., 18, New Bond Street.
1903 *Thatcher A. A., Esq., Midsomer Norton.
1903 *Thomas C. E., Esq., 13, Queen Square.
1903 *Tite Charles, Esq., Stoneleigh, Taunton.
1918 Tweed Miss Rachael, 7, Lansdown Crescent.
1904 Tyte W., Esq., 7, Bloomfield Crescent.

1914 Wace Henry, Esq., St. Winifreds.
1914 Wace Miss, St. Winifreds.
1903 *Waldegrave Right Hon. the Earl, Chewton Priory.
1913 Walker Robert, Esq., F.R.G.S.
1916 Walker W. A., Esq., 6, Percy Place.
1914 Ward Mrs. Langfield, Weston Lawn, Weston.
1910 *Wardle F. D., Esq., Guildhall.
1905 Watson Mrs. Dominic, 21, Royal Crescent.
1904 Way Miss H. S., 23, Newbridge Road.
1903 *Whittuck E. A., Esq., 77, Audley Street, W. 1.
1909 *Wickham Rev. J. D. C., M.A., Holcombe Manor.
1917 Wilkinson Miss, The Priory, Southstoke.
1904 Williams D. Prout, Esq., 7, Belvedere.
1913 Wills J. H., Esq., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Mrs., Potticks House, Frankleigh, Bradford-on-Avon.
1913 Wills Stanley, Esq., 14, Royal Crescent.
1913 Wills Mrs., 14, Royal Crescent.
1903 *Winwood Rev. H. H., M.A., F.G.S., 11, Cavendish Crescent.
1908 Wood Miss Ellen, 38, Combe Park.
1914 Wood Miss Margaret, 59, Combe Park.
1913 Woods John C., Esq., Bank House, Trowbridge.

1911 Young B. W., Esq., 1, Stanley Villas, Camden Road.

The Treasurer in Account with the Bath and District Branch Somersetshire Archæological Society for 1918.

1918.	Dr.	£	s.	d.
	To Balance from last year	107	17	11
	,, 172 Members' Subscriptions	43	0	0
	,, Sale of Proceedings	0	16	0
	,, Dividends on 4½% War Loans	2	5	0
	,, War Saving Certificates, £30 and £20 ..	38	15	0
		£192	13	11

1918.	Cr.				£	s.	d.
	By William Lewis & Son, Ltd., Printing and Illustrating Proceedings, 1917				21	13	0
Jan. 11	,, Purchase £30 War Saving Certificates				23	5	0
June 13	,, Ditto £20 P.O. War Saving Certificates				15	10	0
	,, William Lewis & Son, Ltd., Stationery, &c. ..	£3	8	0			
	,, Allowed for old Photo Blocks	2	6	8			
					1	1	4
	,, W. Lewis & Son, Ltd., Circulars, &c...				0	15	6
	,, Postages, Proceedings, Circulars, &c...				2	9	4
	,, Fees at Rambles..				0	10	6
	,, Photographs and Envelopes ..				1	0	4
	,, Hire of Rooms, Literary Institution				1	8	0
	,, Emery Walker, Ltd., Photo Blook and Licence				1	10	4
	,, Donation, National Trust ..				1	1	0
	,, Subscription, Somerset Archæological Society				1	1	0
					71	5	4
	,, Balance 4½% War Loan	£50	0	0			
	,, War Saving Certificates	38	15	0			
	,, L. C., Westminster and Parrs	32	13	7			
					121	8	7
					£192	13	11

Audited and found correct—JAMES ANDERSON,
21st December, 1918.

THOS. S. BUSH, *Hon. Treasurer.*

The cost of the Proceedings for 1918 not included in the above.

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